FLORIDA SKIP

VOL. 33 No. 7 THE ALL-FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION May 1991 75 Cents

RESPONSES TO PRESIDENT BUSH

Once again Amateur Radio played an important part of the 32nd Annual Scoutmaster's Camporee in February at Holiday Park in Ft. Lauderdale. (L to R) Jim Tarbox KA1NBD, Ray Davis N4GUK and Hoisy Hoisington, W4YTA keep the boy scouts interested in communications on the amateur bands. Other amateurs who participated with the demonstration were, Bill Maxwell, AG2B, Forrest Smorag, KA4JHM, Stan Faryniarz, N4LWQ, Floyd McCall, KD9XN, and David Crane WB4ERU. (Photo by Roy Erickson, WA4BLH)

SENATE BILL 598 PASSES

April 9th a bill exempting amateur radio antennas from local zoning and other restrictions went to Governor Lawton Chiles.

Conflicts between amateur operators and local authorities over antennas are common. The Senate voted 36 to one for the bill CSSB 598 by Senator Richard Crotty, (R) Orlando. The House passed it 111 to 1.

Details next month.

COMING EVENTS

St. Pete Lk Maggiore, Sun May 5th 1991
Fla. 25th QSO Party, May 18 & 19
Jax. Amateur/Computer Show Aug. 3 & 4th
FGCARC Suncoast Convention Nov. 23 & 24th
Miami Hamboree Feb. 8 & 9, 1992
Pensacola Hamfest Feb. 15th
Melbourne Hamfest Sept. 13, 14 & 15th.
Note: Hamfester asvise youe dates ASAP. AC

FLORIDA ARMY M.A.R.S. NEWS
By Lorraine S. Matthew, AAT4JK

President Bush has encouraged Americans everywhere to become "points of light" — people who volunteer their time and expertise to help others. Nowhere has this reporter ever seen a more dynamic and dedicated group of volunteers than those "points of light" who make up Florida Army MARS.

Sharing and caring are trademarks of these people. They share thousands of dollars worth of equipment each. They share valuable time. They share expertise. They share openly and generously with thousands of people whom they will never meet — all because they care so much.

During the month of February, Florida Army MARS members donated 3,300 hours on the air and 4,700 hours overall. Having a busy station myself, I would venture a guess that these hour figures are well under the actual total time spent by MARS members. It is most difficult to log all the extra hours that are dedicated to MARS. Nearly 4,400 messages were handled, making many military personnel and their loved ones happier.

The phone patch numbers are equally outstanding. The Army MARS Station (AAR4CSS) at Ocala had logged 5,730 phone patches since opeining in January, 1991.

The hamfest season continued in March with the Orlando Hamcation and the Ft. Walton Beach Hamfest occurring on the same weekend (March 15-17) — the rainiest weekend Floridians could remember having in March. In spite of the Friday, Saturday and downpours, both events were deemed to be highly successful. Each had its own very active combined MARS table.

The All-Service MARS table at Ft. Walton Beach was directed and manned by Bob Watson, AAR4QH. He enjoyed discussing MARS with many interested hams and logged in 19 Army MARS members, 19 Navy MARS members and 12 Air Force MARS members. Several applicants emerged from the two-day affair.

The All-Service MARS booth at the Orlando Hamcation was set up with the invaluable help of Bob Thomson, AAV4JR. Numerous MARS members stopped by and helped to man the booth. Jim Hamilton, AAT4RD, Florida Army MARS ASMD and Joe Gibson, Air Force MARS SMD, were on hand and talked to many interested people who stopped for information. It was a very busy site.

This reporter can attest to the fact that manning such a table really enables a person to meet many MARS members and to meet some of the public that we serve. Many hams and non-hams showed an interest in our work. Most heartwarming were the comments of military personnel who had received MARSgrams while deployed as well as family and friends of military who had sent and received messages via MARS. All had the same theme — the two-way link in the transmittal of love and support.

Florida Army MARS members should feel very good about the work they have done and will continue to do.

It will be the emphasis of Florida Army MARS public relations efforts to let the military and the public know that our work does continue in peacetime as well as when the country's interests are threatened. At all times, our military has a worldwide commitment. Florida Army MARS will be available to support them and their loved ones wherever they may be.

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DEADLINE: 8th of month in P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

(See Advertising Rates in Hambar Section)

SILENT KEYS

We are deeply sorry to report the passing of the following Florida amateurs.

K4UJZ	Russell Olmsted ex	Ft. Lauderdale
KB8TC	Jay Abbott	Ft. Walton Beach
K4BT	Archie B. Curtis, 83	Jacksonville
KB4SXX	George Shriver	Orlando
W8SMO	Dr. Nelson Clark	Stuart
W1IB	Donal Bradshaw	Palmetto
K2EI	Ray Reuland	Miami Beach
K4JGC	Roy Hitchcock	Brooksville
W4STG	T. S. Gates	Boca Raton

Dear Andy:

As chairman of the annual Lake Maggiore Hamfest I would like to enlist the aid of your publication in making this years hamfest as successful as previous years have been. To this end I ask only that you list our hamfest in your publication.

Enclosed is a copy of our flier listing the particulars of our hamfest. It's on Sunday the 5th of May at Lake Maggiore Park. We will have refreshments and there will be tailgating, but no commercial dealers. Mostly this hamfest is an occasion for all local hams to get together, swap stories, enjoy the camaraderie and hopefully to influence the non-hams showing up to join our ranks as it did for me last year.

This year . . . May 5th . . . 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. . . . Lake Maggiore Park.

Sincerely yours,
Robert Burke, KC4SXO
209 N.E. Lincoln Circle North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
(813) 527-7096

YOUR HAM LICENSE

When was the last time you looked at your amateur license? Do you know when it expires? You should! Even with a two-year grace period, time slips by fast. If you do not know when your ticket runs out, I would suggest you find it now and make a note of it.

This all leads up to one point, if you need a FCC 610 Form Florida Skip can supply you with one or two provided you send us a number 10 (10-inch) evelope, self-addressed and stamped to: Skip 610, P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

The Miami FCC Field Office was kind enough to send us about 200 forms recently to pass out as needed. Play it safe . . . check your license now.

MAILING LABEL READ THE TOP LINE

Your address (the top line) shows your Skip expiration date. If we don't receive your renewal fee by the 18th of that month the computer automatically kicks your address out on the next mailing and you will not receive any future issues.

We can't afford to send back issues. It cost us about 85¢ to send one copy (copy, postage and handling). So please send your renewals promptly.

TO THE EDITOR

GUEST EDITORIAL
By D.F. Kane, KB4LHP

I attended a recent Central Florida Hamfest and noticed something that reflects where our hobby is at today.

The atmosphere was tainted by the amount of non-ham- or non-computer-related items that resembled your typical flea market. Such items included electronic devices that voiced obscene phrases, etc. I overheard two tables of non-hams who openly admitted they only set up shop since they knew there would be a crowd around. They regularly work flea markets and have nothing to do with ham radio.

With the flea market atmosphere it was almost impossible to hold an intelligent conversation with anyone since the lines of crowds were like cattle through a feed-lot. We have a hobby that promotes communication and yet I noticed very few people communicating. If I were a new novice or prospective amateur I would have found the hamfest a difficult place to obtain advice, help or encouragement.

With the observations, I would like to offer solutions:

1. Limit the number of tables to provide space and make tailgating free under your normal ticket charge. This will spread the crowd out and avoid the "cattle march."

2. Set up an "Elmers" workshop area that's large enough to have experienced amateurs around for the primary purpose of helping new hams. The special event station could be housed here.

3. Have a printed and enforced list of items not permitted for display.

4. Have all door prizes positioned so as "not required to be present to win." This will prevent people standing around watching or looking for obscure light displays. I would think for a few cents per admission ticket, all the prizes could be shipped.

Dear Andy:

I wish to bring something to your attention. Perhaps someone already has.

In your last issue of Florida Skip you ran an article by W4TAH Swede Hogberg. In the heading you listed him as an official member of the amateur auxiliary. As you are well aware Mr. Hogberg resigned this position over six months ago.

I feel that it would be in good taste for you to print a retraction in your next issue.

I do realize that articles can be held for print for a period of time, however, this retraction would alleviate many questions that are being asked at this time.

Thanks a lot, Andy . . . I appreciate your doing this.

Ed Ricca, K4PT
Apollo Beach, Florida

(Editor's Note: Thanks Ed for bringing this to our attention. So noted! Sorry for any inconveniences. — Andy)

Dear Andy:

I need to cancel a Hambar which will appear in next issue of Skip. The Hambar to cancel was a want ad for a tower. I got real lucky and purchased the Wilson tower in the last (May) issue of Skip.

Must have been an answer to a prayer. It was for sale for five days and it had gone unsold until I saw it and bought it. I'm tickled pink. You could say I had my best Good Friday ever. I prayed about it and do belive my prayer was answered.

The towers previous owner was KK6P. If the ad can be stopped, please do so.

Enclosed is a coupon, $2.00 and a request to please extend my Skip subscription . . . if that is acceptable to you.

Thank you kindly.

— 73,
Jeff Haught, WD4RAY
Seminole, FL

Dear Andy:

Enclosed is information on the 18th Annual Greater Jacksonville Amateur Radio and Computer Show to be held August 3-4 at the Osborn Convention Center.

This year we are designated as the Northern Florida ARRL Convention Center and expect over 60 exhibitor booths to be leased.

— 73,
Billy Williams, N4UF
Publicity Chairman
Greater Jacksonville Amateur Radio and Computer Show
P.O. Box 9673
Jacksonville, FL 32208
(904) 766-2410 or (904) 765-3230

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TRAFFIC HOUNDS — MARCH 1991

By K4ZK, STM South Florida

NET	QNI	AVG. QTC	AVG.	SESSIONS	MGR	QTC/QNI
QFN	1,166	18.8	968	15.6	62	AA4HT	0.83
SWFTN	801	30.8	639	24.6	26	K4FQU	0.79
FMTN	648	30.9	418	13.5	31	W4NFK	0.64
NFPN	2,352	75.9	415	13.4	31	WA4NDA	0.17
FPTN	1,331	42.9	379	12.2	31	WB4WYG	0.28
TPTN	613	19.8	348	11.2	31	WX4J	0.56
SEFTN	1,336	43.1	315	10.3	31	KD4GR	0.23
FMSN	420	13.5	222	7.2	31	N4KFU	0.52
GN	259	8.3	219	7.1	31	W4DL	0.84
FAST	551	6.9	158	2.5	62	WD4KBW	0.28
SVTN	823	27.7	99	3.3	30	KB4LB	0.12
QFNS	267	8.6	90	2.9	31	KC4FL	0.33
FPON	363	11.7	88	2.8	31	WB4GCK	0.24
SPARC	595	19.2	33	1.1	31	WD4FAL	0.05
PBTN	595	22.9	31	1.2	26	WA4RUE	0.05
GCVTN	676	22.5	26	0.9	30	N4SGQ	0.03
AIN	75	15.0	8	1.6	5	WA4PFK	0.10
ENMC	44	11.0	1	0.2	4	K4ZK	0.02
BCEPN	153	38.3	0	0.0	4	KB4NRC	0.00

Total QTC: 4,457 • Average QTC/QNI: .32

LATE TRAFFIC HOUNDS FOR FEBRUARY, 1991

FMTN	1,008	36.0	891	31.8	28	W4NFK

TOP TWENTY TRAFFICERS — MARCH 1991

By WA4PFK and WA4PUP

STATION	TOTAL	STATION	TOTAL
1. W3CUL	3,280	11. WA4QXT	433
2. W3VR	1,140	12. AA4HT	386
3. KB6ECH	997	13. KB9LT	339
4. K4FQU	927	14. K4ZK	334
5. N4SS	837	15. KB4WBY	327
6. WD4IIO	673	16. K4EUK	*311
7. WA9VND	582	17. K4SCL	300
8. WA4EIC	491	18. K4IA	272
9. WB0HOX	461	19. WC4D	238
10. WA4PFK	456	20. AB4EA	*223

*BPL ORIG + DEL

FLORIDA C.W. NETS

By Ed, K4IA

FMSN Reported by Joe, N4KFU: FMSN had a busy month with Easter approaching. We had 420 stations check in with 222 pieces of traffic being passed.

Top check-in station for the month was Bess, N4UAV with a perfect record. Congratulations to you for your great support.

Bess was closely followed by: WC4D, AA4FG, KC4TNI and WA9VND who all QNI 25 or more times.

Stations checking in over 15 times were: N4KFU, N4BGS, K4EBE, KC4FL, N4IWO, AA4HT, WB4WYG and KB9LT.

The net welcomes Bill, NY4E who jumped in as NCS Sunday nights. Bill brings years of ham experience and we appreciate his efforts. Also welcome to newcomers, Bill, N4KIW from Big Pine Key and Chet, WB4XK from Eagle Lake. It's good to have you fellows with us and hope to hear from you more.

During March AA4BN had 18 stations QNI at one session, while WA4QXT directed the passing of 24 messages in another. Liaison with TPTN is going well due to the fine efforts of AA4FG, KC4FL and N4UAV even jumping in a few times. In fact, Bess, N4UAV helped outgoing to QFN several times.

Remember! You don't have to send fast to check in with QFN. The NCS and other stations will adjust for any station as that is just good operating procedure. QFN liaison is alive and well thanks to our regular representatives and even a few volunteers. Thanks to KB9LT and AA4FG who lent a hand for NCS duties.

I hope to see you on FMSN each night at 5:30 local time on 3651 KHz.

—73,
Joe

QFN Manager Rip, AA4HT Writes: The March results show our average check-in and traffic per session increased to 18.8 from 17.5 and 15.6 from 14.4 respectively from February.

I sure was sorry to hear about the health problems of Carl, W4NFK. He is still in the hospital at this time and is recovering satisfactorily so we will be hearing him back on QFN. We wish him the very best for a speedy recovery. Thanks to Nick, N4SS for helping out as NCS on Fridays in Carl's absence.

It is about the time of the year when some of our net members pack up their rigs and head back north for the summer. We of course will miss them, but wish them well until their return next fall.

Joe, N4KFU has asked to be replaced as the RN5 representative on Mondays. He advised me that he is on call and subject to be called to work at any time. The net needs a volunteer to take over that RN5 spot, so don't hesitate to let me know if you are interested. We will provide you with all the necessary information (early session on 7052 KHz, etc.), so try it, you'll enjoy it.

See you on QFN at 7:00 and 10:00 local time on 3651 KHz.

—73 from,
Rip

Gator Net Notes by Dan, W4DL: The net has to recover from the loss of Doug, W4MEE, a consistent hard worker and difficult to replace.

Gator Net has been plagued with Amtor QRM from Texas. Possibly the time change may help.

Net Manager W4DL is looking for more traffic and liaison stations. Our regulars are much appreciated.

Welcome to the weekenders: W8IM Dan and WB4FSF Bonnie.

Heard W1QCL, West Palm Beach, testing the waters. Jump in Jim.

Sam, N4BGS is appearing on GN and QFN. Understand Mae and Al are over their difficulties.

Tentative NCS spots are: Monday, K4JI; Tuesday, W4DL; Wednesday, KB9LT; Thursday, K4JI; Friday, KB9LT; Saturday, W4IYT; and Sunday, W4DL. As is obvious, we can use some one day a week relievers.

—73,
Dan

QFN Notes by John, KC4FL: In March we had 267 stations check in and a total of 90 messages in 763 minutes. Traffic is up a bit from last month.

High volume stations were mostly the same ones, but these stations are joining the regulars on a more consistent basis: N4KIW, N4BGS, N4LAO and W4DWN.

With the time change to daylight, propogation may help some nets which will move to 40 meters, but it does not affect QFNS which stays on 3715 KHz the year-round.

We hope to see you on QFNS at 8:00 p.m. local.

—73 from,
John

Traffic for the month of April will be greatly boosted by the Sun and Fun EAA Fly-In with W4TJM of Lakeland originating hundreds a day. Although they arrive into NTS coded by seven fixed text numbers, these are by no means rubber stamp messages that could be booked. But it takes a few QSP's to smoothly supply the translation of numbers into text, add the preamble for entry into the NTS systems and find your way around when fills are needed. —73, Ed, K4IA

S.S.B. NETS

By Joe Scungio, N4KFU

From Bill, WB4WYG, FPTN Net Manager: Easter traffic did not seem to hit the net too hard this year. Their were 1,331 stations who checked in with 379 pieces of traffic being sent. Thirty-four stations checked in over 80 percent of net sessions with 15 stations checking in 100 percent of net sessions.

They were: N4BGS, W4BKC, WA4EIC, K4EJW, N4GMU, WB0HOX, WA4JDH, K4KIC, KB4MON, KB4RTG, K4SJA, WB4TZR, WA9VND, KB4WCX and WB4ZVD. This group represents 28.3 percent of net membership and the 34 stations represent 64.2 percent of the net roster.

There were 32 travelers who checked in 98 times which represent 7.3 percent of net check-ins.

The Polk Ham Club will produce our next traffic binge with the Lakeland Sun and Fun Fly-In during April. Last year the Polk Club handled 1,500 messages so be ready to help folks.

Carl, W4NFK is in the North Broward Medical Center and we sure wish him a complete and speedy recovery.

Helen, WB0HOX is experiencing some antenna problems and many net members have offered suggestions to affect a better signal on 80 meters.

Net members continue to contribute excellent articles regarding traffic handling. If you missed "It Seems To Be" by Doc, W4SME in the March issue of Florida Skip, don't miss "Traffic Handling" by Joe, N4KFU of the April issue. These articles are well worth your time to read as their is something for just about every traffic handler to ponder.

Again, don't miss these words of wisdom.

Start your day the "ham radio way." Make a transmission on 3940 at 7:00 a.m. where we all have fun meeting and greeting fellow operators while passing traffic.

—73s,
Bill

From Earl, K4FQU, SWFTN Net Manager: Easter is long gone, the "snow birds" are winging northward and that means summer is coming. I hope everyone had a nice Easter. I did the best I could as I had bronchitis.

The net had a great month with traffic up almost 200 percent from last year. We passed 639 pieces of traffic versus 220 last year. QNI went down 10 percent to 801 versus 912 last year. Many thanks to all for making it another successful month.

Our northern helpers are on their way back north, but they also contributed much as always to net operations. This means some of our NCS and liaison stations have also gone and with summer vacations coming up we will need some volunteers to fill these slots. It's always nice and gratifying to see a new group step forward. All of our NCS's and liaison people have been doing a great job.

With summer comes the activity of electing net managers. This takes place in July, so please start thinking about that. I would accept the position again as I enjoy the work and have the equipment to handle it. However, anyone who is interested can certainly apply.

—73s to all,
Earl

From Carl, W4NFK, FMTN Net Mangaer: FMTN had a successful month thanks to all who participated especially those who help so much with relaying. In particular, Mr. WB4WYG.

The net welcomes Bill, AB4PG our new NCS and Sam, N4BGS who brings much traffic to the net.

Our new duty roster is as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NCS	N4UF	WA4NDA	AB4PG	N4ADI	WA4QXT	N4UF	N4UF
D4RN	WB4WYG	WX4H	WA4QXT	WA4RUE	WX4H	WX4H	WX4H
RN5D	W7YWF	WB0HOX	WB0HOX	WB0HOX	W7YWF	WX4H	WX4H
TPTN	WA9VND	Every Day					

—73s to all,
Carl

FLORIDA TRAFFIC NETS

Net	Frequency	Time (eastern)
Florida Phone TFC Net (FPTN)	3940	0700
Gator Net (GT)	7068	0830
Florida Midday TFC Net (FMTN)	7247.5	1145
Tropical Phone TFC Net (TPTN)	3940/7243	1700
Florida Medium Speed TFC Net (FMSN)	3651/7061	1750
South Florida Amateur SSB TFC Net (FAST/E)	3940	1800
South Florida Amateur SSB TFC Net (FAST/L)	3940	2230
Northern Florida Phone Net (NFPN)	3950	1830/1930
All-Florida CW TFC Net (QFN/E)	3651/7061	1900
All-Florida CW TFC Net (QFN/L)	3651	2200
All-Florida Slow CW TFC Net (QFNS)	3715	2000
Florida Public Operations Net (FPON)	3908	1630
ARRL Information Net (AIN)	3940	0730 (saturday)
Northern Florida Emergency Net (NFEN)	3950	0900 (monday-saturday)

Note One:
The formation of a Southern Florida emergency net is being studied at the present time.

Note Two:
The ARRL Net Directory provides a more detailed listing of local and special interest nets.

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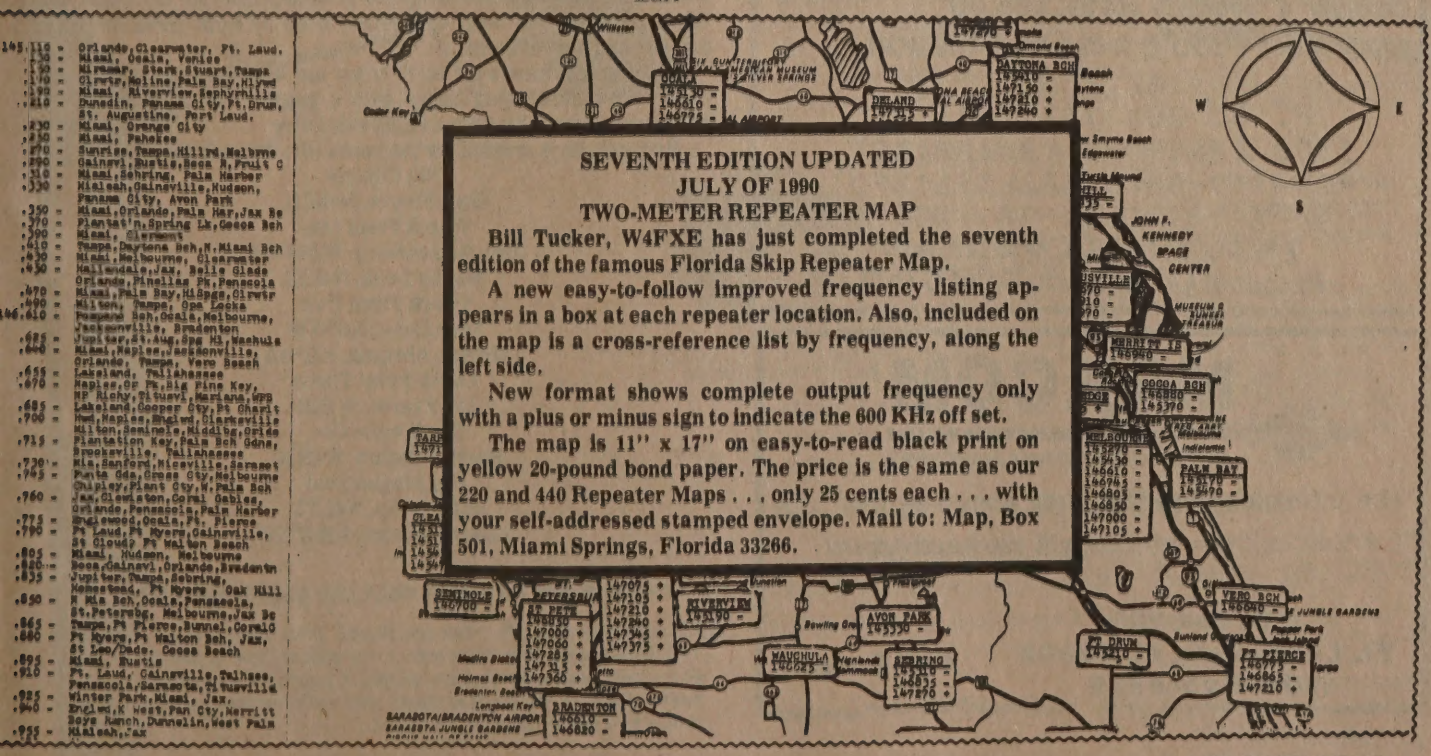

Bikers take a rest stop break at Bruit & Spice Park. See Story below. (photo by N4MHL.)

HAMS HELPING LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS
ANOTHER PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT
By René Freret, N4MHL

There is an old saying in the bicycling world: "The earth is neither flat, round, oval or square, it's up hill all the way." In most of the world this is quite true, but in South Florida this saying needs to be amended from "up hill" to "against the wind." This proved to be very true during the recent Snowbird Century Bicycle Ride sponsored by the Everglades Bicycle Club on March 2nd and 3rd.

Ten South Florida hams participated in this annual event to aid in the care and feeding of over 200 cyclists. Using the 147.000 repeater with permission from the South Florida FM Association these hams manned checkpoints and sag wagons from 2000 hours on Saturday to 1700 hours on Sunday.

Most riders participated during the daylight hours of Sunday, but about 25 did some night riding to qualify for a double century of 200 miles.

Luck would have it this weekend presented some very unusual weather conditions. Sunday's wind gusts were reported to be in the 35 miles per hour range and at one point caused a change in the mapped out route due to downed power lines. More than one rider returned to the registration/start/finish area at Dade County's Fruit and Spice Park voicing loud complaints about the headwinds. But, in the same breath, excited voices were bragging about the high speeds obtained when going downwind. Some said they were in the highest gears and could not spin the pedals any faster.

Much to the amazement of Net Control there were very few cyclists who needed the services of the sag wagons. Communications by the hams involved were in the most part just general routine information. Net Control was concerned at all times for the safety and welfare of all the riders. He made sure the sag wagons were on the road as much as possible to scout for riders in distress. Each amateur volunteer had a distinct blue shirt on so as to be visible to anyone at anytime in case of emergency — of which we had none.

The days event proceeded smoothly for the ham operators. The majority of riders departed around 0700-0730 on Sunday morning following a well marked route with painted arrows (a map was provided also).

The first loop for the riders was a clockwise route stopping off at Black Point Park for refreshments if needed. After returning back to Fruit and Spice Park the second loop took them south and out to the Visitors Center at Everglades National Park completing a total of 100 miles (plus a few for good measure).

The stretch into the National Park was the challenge for most coming toward the end of the ride and with maximum winds. Unfortunately for some the sag wagon was required for the last few miles. Rain chased the last four riders back to the starting point where the event ended around 1700 hours.

Two-meter operation has proven its worth many times over for this kind of event. Net Control and various groups of ham volunteers have assisted this club in approximately 10 events of this type. We have been applauded often by both participating cyclists and club officers.

It's a great chance for us to enjoy our hobby and at the same time help others enjoy theirs with a greater sense of security knowing assistance is only a rapid call away.

Recognition is needed for the hams who donated their time:

Net Control
Rene Freret, N4MHL
Check Point One
Izzy Armenteros, WA4PPB
Martin Leak, N4FIZ
Check Point Two
Joan Leak, N4ONW
George Abrams, K4PAA
Check Point Three
Del Freret, W4KB
Sag Wagon One
Harry Pilafian, W4SQG
Sag Wagon Two
Bill Starky, N4LTT
Susanne Moore, KB4PNH

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AEA's IsoLoop™ HF ANTENNA

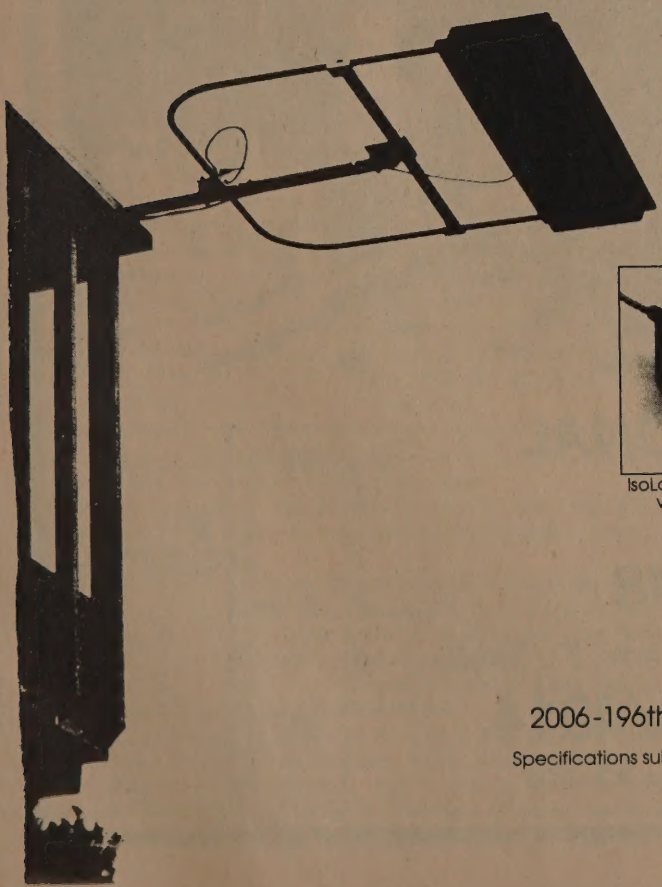
REVOLUTIONARY COMPACT DESIGN

Once again AEA has achieved a significant engineering breakthrough with its high-performance, low profile HF IsoLoop antenna. Performance isn't compromised by its small size. Operate your favorite HF band (14 to 30 MHz frequency coverage) from areas with restrictive zoning ordinances or apartments and condos. Or take it with you on vacation. . . it's the ideal go-anywhere portable antenna. And it's the only antenna you need to cover 14 to 30 MHz. ONE antenna instead of numerous dipoles and without any traps!

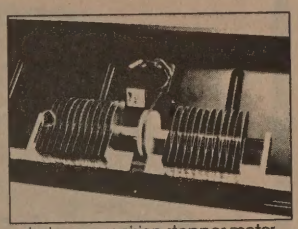
150 Watts. Rated up to 150 watts, the IsoLoop transmits and receives on any frequency between 14 to 30 MHz. When mounted with the loop in the horizontal plane, the radiation pattern is omni-directional and horizontally polarized, with the gain of a dipole. Maximum radiation is at low angles which is ideal for DX operation. The IsoLoop may also be mounted with the loop in the vertical plane to provide a null in a desired direction. Tuning is provided by a precision stepper-motor and a small remote control box, the LC-1.

The IsoLoop does not need ground radials and its balanced, shielded feed-loop isolates the feedline from the antenna. The IsoLoop is well-isolated from the feedline. Like AEA's Isopole antennas, your signal is radiated by the antenna and not the feedline. With end-fed antennas, the outside of the coax becomes part of the antenna, resulting in noise and computer hash pickup and increased TVI problems.

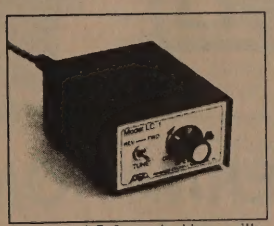
High-Q Design. One of the unique features of the IsoLoop is its inherent High-Q. The IsoLoop can be considered a very sharp tunable filter that radiates. The narrow bandwidth suppresses harmonics from your transmitter reducing TVI problems. It also attenuates out-of-band signals from nearby transmitters that could overload your receiver.



Compact. The IsoLoop is square, with rounded corners, and measures 32 inches on a side and weighs only 12 pounds. Because of the IsoLoop's small size, it makes a perfect attic or balcony antenna. It's also excellent for portable operation, recreational vehicles or camp-site use. A rotator is not necessary when used in the omni-directional, horizontally polarized mode.



IsoLoop precision stepper motor provides accurate tuning.



IsoLoop LC-1 control box with variable speed tuning.

Revolutionary. The AEA IsoLoop antenna represents years of research and development. Others may try to imitate the IsoLoop, but none can match the patent-pending design.

AEA also provides technical support from the factory or through your personal computer and modem on CompuServe's HamNet. If you are already a CompuServe member, just type GO HAMNET at any CompuServe prompt. For a free introductory CompuServe membership, call 1-800-848-8199 and ask for representative #48.

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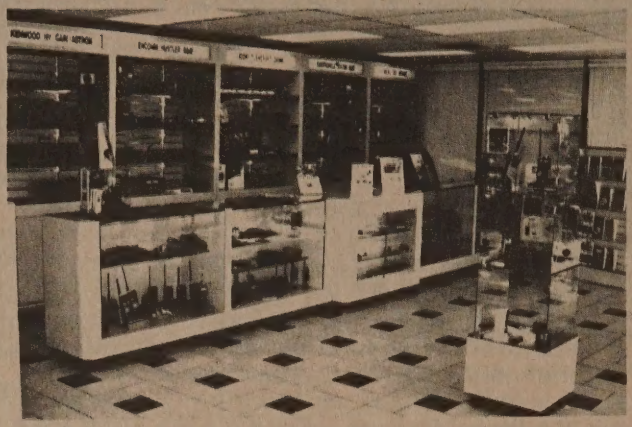

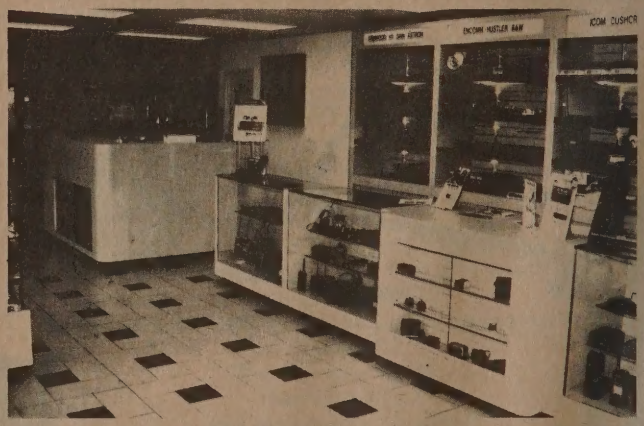

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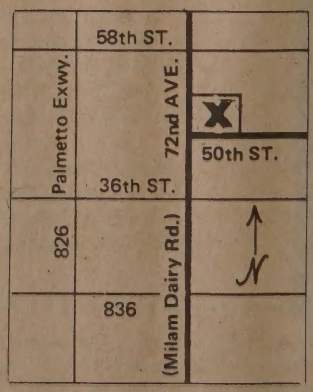

QCWA, Inc.

FLORIDA Q.C.W.A. NEWS
Edited by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

FLORIDA STATE Q.C.W.A. NEWS
Edited by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

QCWA now has 177 chapters. The Floyd Henderson is chapter 177. Welcome aboard. Only 10 members are needed to start a chapter. Forms can be obtained from headquarters.

Our state has provided a particularly good demonstration of the benefits of multiple chapters. There is no jealousy there about "breaking up" one chapter to form another. Their experience has demonstrated that more localized groups just bring in more new members, thus all of the QCWA benefits. The Gator Chapter has been broken up a number of times, but is still going strong.

Dr. Clifford Spike, W7OS, 90 years young was given recently a 75-year plaque. Can you top that?

Applications for QCWA Scholarships are now available upon request and must be completed and returned prior to June 30th. Applicants must hold at least an FCC General-Class License and be enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment in an accredited university, college or technical school and intend to pursue a full-time course of studies leading to at least an associate degree. Graduate students are also eligible. Applicants must be recommended by a member of QCWA.

— Reported by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER

Regret to report that Dwight Redus, N4LBG is ailing. Best wishes on a speedy recovery. Al Streling, W4OFT had a bad fall, but has recovered. His beam has been repaired which was damaged by the wind. Bill Gilman, WT4F has recovered from heart surgery. He is supervising the installation of a new control unit for the LARC repeater.

Our chapter is well represented on the State QCWA Net each Saturday with check ins by: KM4OA, K8YGH, K4DF, K8RIF, W4PBL and W4JM.

Charlie Zottu, WB4NSQ has a new two-meter antenna.

Our net operates on 7253 KHz at 9:00 a.m.

We meet every month of the year at 11:30 a.m. at the Sizzler Steak House, 3105 U.S. Highway 98N, Lakeland. Meetings are on the third Saturday of the month.

— Reported by Jim Gundry, W4JM

GATOR CHAPTER

At our March meeting there were 40 members and guests. We welcomed two new members: Joan Borngraber, KM4HK and Marvin Borngraber, WC2G and they live in Holiday, Florida.

Fred Leedham, W1WOX has been quite sick and in the hospital for more than two weeks, but last reports show that he is finally recovering. Harold Grigsby, AA4MF is undergoing treatments in the outpatient department of a local hospital. He is known as Cappy and is eligible for a 70-Year Certificate.

George Seibert, K4KVD and XYL are celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary and Dave, K4KE and XYL Alice, WB4ZPU are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

The Pelican Chapter has decided to request the 1993 QCWA National Convention and they have asked our chapter to assist in this big undertaking.

Our Saturday morning net on two meters is going quite well with 18 check-ins on March 2nd. Eli, K4JMH gave the program at this meeting and it was a slide show of Israel which was taken some time ago on a trip to this interesting country.

— Reported by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

PELICAN CHAPTER

At our March meeting Ed Read, WA1HCK was presented with a 70-Year Certificate. Cress Donbar, K4YL also received a 70-Year Certificate. Start Totman, W4YB was given a 65-Year Certificate. Jay, K9BSL presented President Blanche Randles, W4GXZ with a much needed gavel.

New Pelican QCWA Chapter officers for 1991. Front: Blanch Randles, President. 2nd row L to R: K9MOR, Ralph Luedke V.P., W8HEZ, Gil Pearsall, Dir., K4KE, Dave Stocky, Dir., Back row L to R: K4FCW, Jim Keyes, Dir., K9BSL, Jay Strom., Secretary, W4PCO, Don Bice, Treasurer and K4JMG Eli Nannis, Dir., and State QCWA Skip editor. Please send all Chapter news directly to Eli ASAP after your monthly meetings. (Photo via K9BSL)

Our members are considering a picnic, covered-dish or any other activity the members may want for early summer or in the fall.

Blanche is leaving shortly for their summerhome in New Hampshire. Ralph, K9MOS will take over our chapter at that time.

There were 32 members and guests present at our March meeting. We welcomed a new member, Art Kunst, W3WM at this meeting.

Mary Campbell XYL of W9UEM spent 11 days in the hospital. Effie and Fred, W4BN both have recovered from a recent illness. The XYL of Jim, K4FCW is home from the hospital and she is doing well.

Jim, K4FCW has worked and confirmed 229 countries.

The program at our March meeting was presented by Hal, W3AA. He told of the start of Keystone Electric which was started in mothers home and eventually the company grew to 200 employees.

Thanks to Bill, W4TAD for the fine pictures in the Spring QCWA Journal.

— Reported by Jay, K9BSL

SUNCOAST CHAPTER

Our chapter held our regular meeting at the House of Chong in Sarasota on March 7th. There were 58 members and guests present. We welcomed a new member, Frank Shuble, W9TEQ.

Corby Pratt presented an engraved plaque to Eric "Swede" Hogberg, W4TAH in recognition of his work in helping on interference problems and as a member of the Amateur Auxiliary of the FCC Field Operations Bureau. He reported that FCC Inspectors were calling on selected amateurs asking them to contact a station and then see how much they could reduce their power and still maintain contact. He also reported on Florida House Bill H203 making Florida laws on antennas conform with FCC rulings.

Bud Hynes, N4RRS introduced the speaker, Art Shull. Art is retired as an administrator in the Indianapolis schools. He gave an interesting illustrated talk on history and stamps.

— Reported by Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF

MAILING NOTICE PLEASE

Our normal mailing date is the 25th of each month! Do not call Yea Editor! We dont know! Ask your mail-man - who just got another pay increase! 73 Editor.

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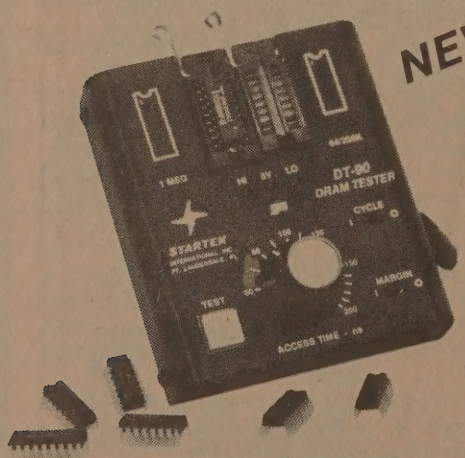
#1500HS	HI-SENS Counter Inc. NI-CAD Pack and AC ADP	**169.00**
#TA-90	Telescoping BNC Antenna, General Usage	**12.00**
#DC-10	Probe, 50 OHM, 1X, 3 Ft. Cable	**20.00**



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20-METER NET 'DISPUTES' PUT TO REST BY COMMISSION

The FCC has dropped its request that amateurs involved in certain nets on 20 meters develop a plan to resolve disputes among them.

The FCC addressed the 20-meter disputes late in 1989 when it sent letters to 19 net and bulletin station managers. A second FCC letter to nine of the managers asked them to come up with a plan to resolve the disputes, which had been occurring for some time.

Responses from five of the managers were received by the July 1 deadline. The League, as a third party, suggested that such disputes were resolvable by enforcement of existing FCC regulations:

- One-way broadcasts, which, if they go beyond accepted norms for such transmissions on the amateur bands, are illegal;
- Third-party traffic, which is allowed *only* when a formal agreement exists between countries;
- Malicious interference, which is illegal always.

On Aug. 9, 1990, FCC's Robert H. McNamara, chief of the Commission's Special Services Branch, wrote:

"It is obvious that the amateur community desires that the disputes be resolved amicably and that potentially restrictive rule making be avoided. It appears, moreover, that there has been progress in resolving the disputes.

"The plans recommend" the FCC letter continued "that the amateur community be allowed to continue addressing this problem internally. Interest in this approach as a model for future dispute resolution in the amateur community has also been expressed by other observers."

The date for developing a plan was extended to Feb. 1, 1991.

On March 4 McNamara wrote the following to all 19 recipients of the original letter:

"Based on the views and input from [two net managers] and other influential members [of] the amateur community, I can only conclude that the dispute is no longer a significant problem and that potentially restrictive rule making can be avoided at this time. The ability of the amateur community to address this dispute internally serves as a model for the resolution of any similar controversies concerning the amateur service in the future."

The ARRL Letter

IT HAPPENED LONG AGO
By Harry Dukas, K14GH

April 10th	Safety pin patented, 1849.
May 1st	Empire State Building opens, 1931.
May 15th	First newspaper published in Miami, 1896.
May 31st	Dr. John Kellogg patents flaked cereal, 1884.
June 25th	Custer last stand, 1876.
July 6th	First bikini modeled in Paris, 1946.
July 28th	Miami incorporated, 1896.
August 5th	First American traffic light installed in Cleveland, Ohio, 1914.
August 29th	First chop suey served in New York, 1896.
September 4th	Los Angeles founded, 1721.
September 4th	Kodak Camera patented, 1888.
September 13th	First automobile fatality in New York, 1899.

W4JM RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Central Florida Chapter 107 has announced issuance of its Presidential Ham Ham's Award, given annually to the chapter member who, in the Chapter President's opinion, has rendered outstanding service to his Fellow Ham.

This year President La Londe has again issued the Award to Jim Gundry, W4JM (Jim received the Award in 1988). Given in recognition of his service to others. He has not only assisted in solving equipment and antenna problems but, has worked to close out estate sales of Silent Keys. Jim has served many terms as chapter Secretary and has reported regularly to QCWA headquarters and obtained publicity for the Chapter in other publications, such as Florida Skip.

The Award is pictured above, with Frank, W4PBL at left and Jim, W4JM at right. QCWA congratulates both men who have each made significant contributions to QCWA and to ham radio!

KNIGHTS OF THE KILOCYCLE
3910 kc Sunday Morning 1130Z — 0730 EDT
By Robert W. McDow, W4KOG

Sorry to report this month that Wm. L. "Yukon" Curry, WA4YHN became a "silent key" in March. Don't know any of the details, but Yukon had been ill and in the hospital at Port Charlotte for some time. Yukon was a regular on the Sunday morning net for a long time, having joined the Knights in April of 1965. Yukon got his handle from his duties as a radio operator in Alaska while serving in the Signal Corps during the '20s. Yukon retired to Florida in 1964. I'm sure all his friends will miss Yukon.

The hamfest season for this year is over . . . except for a couple of the smaller, one-day fests the year ends with the Orlando Hamcation. I didn't go to Orlando this year, but I know all that did had a good time except for a little rain . . . But you have to expect that at this time of the year in Orlando.

This also is the time that all our snowbirds are thinking about flying back to their northern nests for the summer . . . hi . . . hi.

We've been having about 25 check ins on the Sunday net lately, it'll start dropping off now.

It sounds like Wendy, W1UCL is planning on making the move permanently this time!!! We will miss him on the net and we'll have to get someone to take over his job as the pre-net control. Wendy, best of luck to you at your new home and don't forget to give us a yell once in a while on HF.

We've received news that Creed, W4TZ is sort of "under the weather" and would like to suggest that Creed's friends might drop him a QSL. His address is: Creed Chorpening, W4TZ, Route 1, Box 367, Clarion, PA 16214.

Not much else to comment on this month . . . Larry, WB9GCH/4 out there in Mississippi has upgraded to advanced class, but he doesn't have his new call yet. Clyde, WI3X got his extra. Congrats to both.

Don't forget to give Don, K7DWT all the health and welfare news.

C U next month . . . 73 . . .

A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S. PROVIDES SUPER BOWL COMMS

By Gifford Mead, N4XRB

Super Bowl XXV was held amidst more security than any other single sporting event in history. Along with the hundreds of local, state and federal law enforcement officers, government agencies and medical personnel involved in insuring a safe event, amateur radio played an important role.

Hillsborough County ARES/RACES volunteers provided communications at the Pre-Super Bowl Carnivale de Ybor Festival and the Bamboleo Parade. Amateur radio operators were also used to provide communications between Red Cross First Aid Stations located at the Super Bowl site and the Tampa Fire/Rescue Command Post. Amateur radio operators were on duty the Thursday, Friday and Saturday prior to the game and during the Super Bowl itself.

In addition to the planned events, ARES/RACES was a integral part of the contingency planning for the Super Bowl period. The ARES/RACES Quick Response Teams, units which provide the "first responders" to any disaster situation which might require communications support, were on alert for the entire period, ready to respond to any mass casualty situation.

Participating in the events were: Hillsborough County ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator N4HKA; Assistant Emergency Coordinators KD8AQ, KI4BU, N4XRB and WB2LEZ; American Red Cross Disaster Director KB6WJK; and ARES/RACES volunteers K9WLD, KA2FMZ, KA4IQZ, KB4FBX, KB4ODM, KC4VBT, N4SCY, N4YHZ, N4XSN and WD4FAL. The Tampa Bay Amateur Radio Society (TBARS) and the KC4HAZ Repeater Group provided the use of their repeater systems to facilitate communications for these events. KC4FSK and KB4FBX provided backup base station and phone patch facilities.

SOUTH FLORIDA'S MOST NEEDED D.X.

By Tom Lewis, N4TL

Have you ever wondered which countries are the rarest? Every year one of the DX newsletters does a survey of their readers and determines which countries are the rarest from the answers they receive.

I don't need to d a survey because I have been keeping a "Want List" for the South Florida DX Association for over 10 years now. From that list I can see which countries are the rarest for the members that are on the list. Not all members participate in the "Want List," so the list is not for all South Florida DXers.

There are 322 countries on the current DXCC countries list. On our "Want List" common countries are not listed, so ther are only 175 countries out of the 322 included in the "Want List."

The most needed DX countries are shown below. The first column is the number of members that need the country. Next is the countries prefix and then the country name last.

37	XZ	Burma	25	FR/T	Tromelin
36	ZA	Albania	24	ET	Ethiopia
33	VP8	S. Sandwich Is.	24	VP8	S. Georgia Is.
32	YA	Avghanistan	23	3B6,7	Agalega/St. Bran.
32	S2	Bangladesh	23	A5	Bahrain
27	1S	Spratly Is.	23	EP-EQ	Iran

YA0RR was on the air in January of this year and S2IU was on the air in April.

This list will probably change as members update their information. It also looks like a few have been missed, like Spratly Island which was on the air list year.

How does your list of needed countries compare with our list?

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MODEL C .....2.1 MHZ–10.0 MHZ TRANS/RECEIVE
MODEL D .....5.0 MHZ–29.0 MHZ TRANS/RECEIVE*
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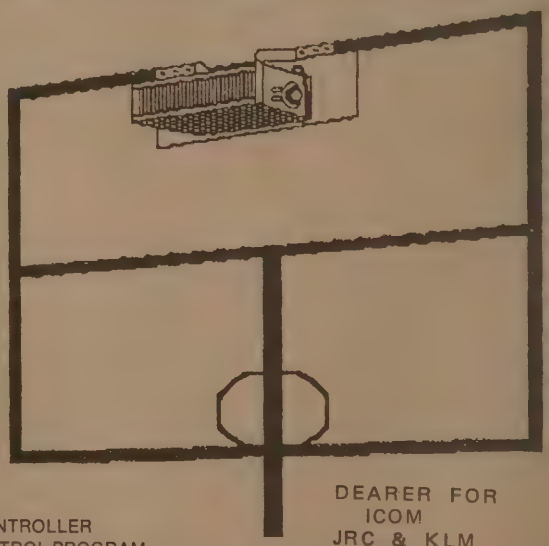

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IC-3220H 2BAND 45/35W MOBILE	565.
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FRUSTRATION

By Eric G. Hogberg, W4TAH

Before I became a ham, back in the early '50s, I had heard that the amateur radio service was a self-policing organization. I thought that was pretty cool. We took care of one another, that's like the buddy system. If you had problems you could ask some other amateur and he would help you out. Do you know what? That really was the way it worked, until the '80s.

My ticket meant a lot to me. I had worked hard to get it. It had taken me a long time, with World War II and a university education, getting in the way. When they called me back into the service for Korea, I decided to sit for the exam as soon as I got close to an FCC Office. With a lot of luck on my side I passed it. I had it and I wanted to keep it. For the past 40 years I have operated from a lot of countries and locations.

Five years ago, when I started preparing for my retirement, I started looking for things to do when I retired. When I was asked if I would like to be an official observer, I thought that would be a nice way to pay amateur radio for all the good things that it had done for me. I didn't know it then, but perhaps I was already getting senile. One thing for sure, I had not kept up with what was going on in amateur radio.

Shortly, after becoming an official observer, I became aware of the changes in amateur radio. The last four years have been a series of revelations and frustrations. Instead of the traffic nets and informal rag chew nets, I started to listen to some of the other frequencies. It soon became obvious to me that I had had my head buried in the sand. What had happened to my hobby?

I listened to the obscenity nets, illegal third-party traffic, phone patch nets, deliberate jamming and interferring, broadcasting and a myriad of other things that I hadn't heard before. What had happened to the courteous amateurs that I used to know? Nowadays, it sounded as though every one was engaged in a battle and doing his own thing. If you were on someone's frequency, he ordered you off, because everyone knew that he operated there. If you didn't move quick enough to suit him, he turned on the linear.

Sending out OO warning cards, produced some of the nastiest letters, that I have ever received. All I had tried to do was warn them that they might get in trouble. With each one my frustrations grew. I went to the ARRL, hoping that they would be able to lead me out of my dilemma. My frustrations only got harder to live with. I took a vacation, hoping to get away from it. Two days after I returned, my frustrations were back in force.

We formed the Amateur Auxiliary of the FCC Field Operations Bureau in the State of Florida, hoping they would help. The Field Office personnel were great, but they needed case histories on each and every violation. They were not allowed to accept our tapes, at first. So it became our word against the violator. I learned how difficult it is to prove an obscenity violation. I learned how it is almost impossible to track down a jammer, in another state. With each case came more frustration.

We held a meeting on "illegal phone patches," trying to come up with an answer and sent the recorded proceedings to the FCC. Frustration level went up. We were requested by the FCC Field Offices to investigate amateur-to-neighbor interference. Dealing with a neighbor, who doesn't understand electronics, is something that is less than rewarding. In some 60 cases, we did provide the amateur with a little less harassment, but my frustration became greater.

We have been called radio cops, do-gooders, illiterate, stupid, nosy and more. We have been laughed at, poked fun of and villified and accused of the things we were trying to eliminate. We have been misquoted, misinterpreted, misunderstood and maligned. We have listened to singing chickens, cursers, belchers and the most obnoxious sounds, that jammers make. Finally, we got sick to our stomachs and had to turn the receiver off. A lot of us gave up in disgust.

We have been told by the FCC, that it was up to the amateurs to solve our own problems. We brought to their attention what we thought were illegal practices, with no results. Today it is a real problem, to solve our own problems. People are more interested in doing their own thing. Like "road warriors" each fight their battles, with no regard as to the effect on the rest of the amateur community. Some of the battles being waged will eventually have to be solved by the FCC. The FCC known for being notoriously slow, will act. It probably will result in more restrictive rules.

L to R: Gilson Pearsall W8HEZ, Harry Bloechle K4WP and Jay Strom K9BSL. Harry received the Phil Stern Award which is awarded to a member of the Pelican Chapter who has performed meritorious services for the chapter during the past year. Nice going OM. (Photo via K9BSL)

I petitioned the FCC for rules covering the amateur auxiliary. I felt that this was needed since we were conducting investigations for them. Without rules we were subject to legal actions. They turned the petition down. I then, repeatedly asked the ARRL for written confirmation of some kind of protection, against legal actions. I was told that this was available. I felt that it was unfair to ask auxiliary members to place themselves in jeopardy. I have not received any confirmation on this, to date. It is just another indication of the lack of support, I have grown to expect.

After over four years, my financial status does not allow me to pursue a happy ending. I realize my talents (if any) are not adequate to deal with the problems and my cup of frustration runneth over. Therefore, it is with regrets that I must depart the position of official observer and look forward to a more rewarding life.

To all those who wished me well during the years, I thank you and say, I know that there will be others who will carry on. I wish them all the luck in the world and may their frustrations be small ones. The American dream that right will triumph still lives, even though it has become unpopular to say you believe in it and are willing to fight for it. Good luck to all those unsung heroes who still carry on the battle.

BRIEFS

- Field checking of QSL cards for the DXCC award has *not* begun, and no start date has been set. ARRL's DXCC Branch continues to receive questions from DXers who are confused about when the program will be implemented. For now, all new DXCC applications and endorsements must be submitted to HQ.

- Motorola, Inc. has loaned the ARRL their VHF-FM handheld transceiver used by the first ham in space, Owen Garriott, W5LFL. Garriott flew aboard the ninth Shuttle mission, on the ship Columbia, for ten days beginning Nov. 28, 1983. The historic transceiver is on display at ARRL HQ.

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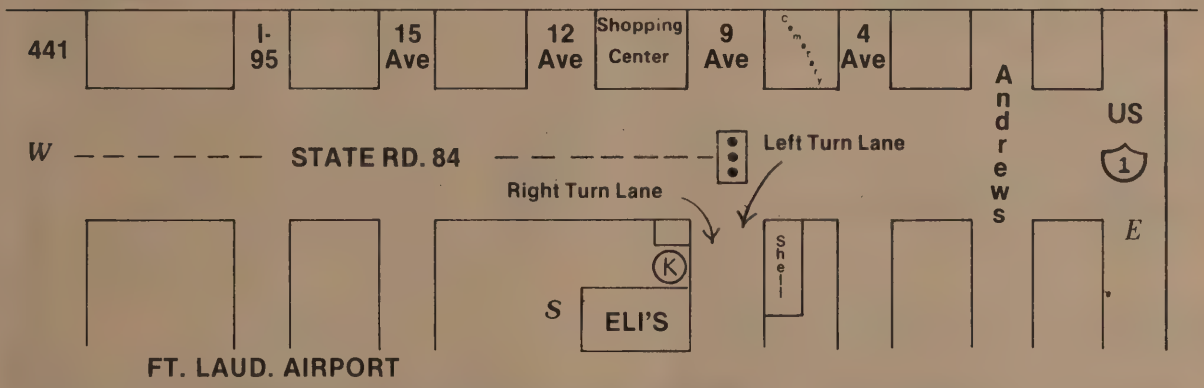

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SPECIAL SALE

Florida SKIP has some new back issues of the 5th Edition of FLORIDA TRAFFIC HANDLERS Routing Guides on hand, edited by Andy Clark, W4IYT. To clear out this Guide, we are selling them for $2.50 each plus 50 cent postage and handling. The Traffic Guide contains everything the 6th edition has plus a centerfold map of Florida with city location chart. If you want 2 for $5.00 we will pay all postage & handling. FLORIDA SKIP PO Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

DIRECTORY

ATTENTION ALL FLORIDA Q.C.W.A. CHAPTERS

Florida Skip will be publishing a directory of any QCWA chapter in Florida. Send me Eli Nannis, K4JMH, 14996 Imperial Point Drive North, Largo, Florida 34644.

FLORIDA STATE Q.C.W.A. NET

The Florida State QCWA Net meets every morning at 8:00 a.m. on 3955 KHz.

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER

The Central Florida Chapter meets all year-round at the Sizzler Steakhouse, 3105 U.S. Highway 98 North, near I-4, Lakeland, Florida. They meet the third Saturday of each month at 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact: Frank La Londe, W4PBL, 3840 Charter Road, Lakeland, Florida 33809 or phone him at (813) 858-8346.

FLORALA CHAPTER

The Florala meets the second Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon at the Hickory House Restaurant, Ft. Walton Square Shopping Center, 99 Eglin Parkway, Northeast.

For more information contact John Zwaska, W4WKQ, (904) 651-1607.

GATOR CHAPTER

The Gator Chapter meets the first Saturday of each month at Stacey's Buffet on Missouri Avenue, Midway Shopping Center, Clearwater at 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact: Eli Nannis, K4JMH at (813) 595-3111 or at 14996 Imperial Point Drive, North, Largo, Florida 34644.

HALIFAX CHAPTER 125

Covers: Flagler County, Ormond Beach, Daytona Beach, Holly Hill, New Smyrna Beach and Edgewater.

Meet: Second Saturday of every month.

Where: Prime Steak and Seafood Restaurant, Volusia (Route 92) near I-95, Daytona Beach.

For Information: Call President Al Schutrum, K2HWF, (904) 672-2324 or Secretary Jack Resnick, W4OKE, (904) 673-0931. Or write: P.O. Box 926, Ormond Beach, FL 32174.

PALM BEACH CHAPTER

The Palm Beach Chapter meets at the Prosperity Oaks Dining Room on Prosperity Farms Road, south of PGA Boulevard at 12:00 noon on the last Tuesday of each month.

For information contact: Bob McDow, W4KOG at (407) 848-2352.

PELICAN CHAPTER

The Pelican Chapter meets the third Wednesday of each month at Stacey's Buffet on 34th Street North, St. Petersburg, near Third Avenue, North. The time is 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact: Paul Turner, W1DLP, 109 Pindo Palm West, Largo, Florida 34640 or phone him at (813) 585-9830.

F.C.C. INFORMATION PAGE

AUBURNDALE AREA

W5YI exams, technical through extra, are to be held on the third Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. They will be held in the First Presbyterian Church on 410 Pilaklakaha Avenue (PK Avenue), Auburndale, Florida. Between Winter Haven and Lakeland on Highway 92. Turn off 92nd on Ariana Avenue, go two stop signs and turn left on PK Avenue. It's the second building on right.

Walk-ins accepted on test available basis. Reservations requested. There is a fee of $5.25 for tech through extra.

For information contact: Pete Salvage at (813) 646-2526 or Bill Loop at (813) 967-5952.

BREVARD COUNTY

ARRL/VEC exams by Consolidated V.E.'s of Brevard County — Room Q-22 — Florida Institute of Technology — Melbourne — 10:00 a.m. (check-in 0930) — third Saturday of every month.

No pre-registration required. Form 610 provided. Bring original and photocopy of current license.

HIALEAH

W5YI coordinated tests — novice through extra, every third Saturday of month at 8 p.m. Due to space limitations pre-registration is encouraged. Fee is $4.95.

Contact Ivan Prada, KP4EDL at (305) 829-0602 from 7 to 9 p.m. for more information.

SUNRISE

CAVEC exams by Racal-Milgo in Sunrise twice per month; on the first Saturday at 8:45 a.m. and on the third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 1601 N.W. 136th Avenue (North Harrison Parkway).

No pre-registration required.

Bring: the original and one copy of your license, the original of any credit certificate (or copy of FCC Form 610 for novice credit), proof of identity (driver's license with photo, etc.) and $2 (except novice which is free).

For further information call: Chip Allen, AK4Y at his home at 476- 8761; or Joe Loewy, KB4FO either at his home 434-8211 or work 846-4567. For 24-hour recorded information call 846-4444.

Talk-in on 145.270 (Tx 600 KHz).

CITRUS COUNTY

License exams are scheduled for the third Saturday in the odd numbered months at 8:30 a.m. at the Citrus County Emergency Operations Center on West Southern Street in Lecanto. (West off C.R. 491, one-quarter mile north of S.R. 44.)

Reservations preferred, walk-ins accepted while supplies last. Bring original ham license and photocopy, certificates for prior exam credits if any, photo identification as **driver's license, pen & pencils and $5.25 fee. Phone Dwight, KJ4AP, (904) 746-4306 for reservations and information.**

Crestview:

FCC exams are given the second Saturday of each third month (February, May, August and November) at 9:00 a.m. at the Council on Aging Building, 298 South Wilson Street, Crestview, Florida. Fee $5.25. Walk-ins welcome. Bring original and copy of license, and a photo identification. For more information contact Bill Pate, WB4ORK, Route 1, Box 189, Crestview, Florida; telephone (904) 682-0539.

DADE CITY AREA

W5YI exams — technician through extra class (novice exams by reservation only) — are conducted the third Wednesday of each month except December, in the Tampa Electric Company, Community Room, 602 East Meridian Avenue (two blocks east of Highway 301) in Dade City, Florida at 6:30 p.m.

Bring the original and a photocopy of your current license, any CSCE and a $5.00 fee.

Form 610 will be furnished and pre-registration is recommended. Exams by appointment will be conducted for those persons with special needs.

Contact Dan Wilson, AB4LN at (904) 521-3494 or (904) 583-5120 evenings and weekends for further information.

DADE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

Exams will be held at the Dade County Emergency Operations Center, 5600 S.W. 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33173, at 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month.

Walk-in exams on test available basis. Bring a photocopy of your current license, photo identification, pen and pencil and a $4.75 check payable to ARRL/VEC. FCC Form 610 available at exam.

For further information contact Tom Sherwood, AL7HW at 255-3170 after 5:00 p.m.

NORTH DADE — SOUTH BROWARD AREA

FCC exams are given on the fourth Thursday of each month by a W5YI-VEC team at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Fellowship Amateur Radio Club at Ingall's Park in Hallandale at 735 S.W. 1st Street.

No charge for novice . . . all others $5.25.

Bring the original of your license, a photocopy and positive identification.

For more information call Howard, N4EBT at 935-5214 or Norm, K4RBR at 823-5437 (evenings).

V.E.C. 1990 EXAM SCHEDULE

Fort Walton Beach:

ARRL/VEC exams by Playground ARC, are held quarterly at the clubhouse — 17 East First Street, Fort Walton Beach. The 1990 dates are March 10th, June 9th, September 8th and December 8th. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome. Fee is $4.95. For futher information contact Bill Hord, W4WIJ at (904) 243-9720; or Hal Byrd, WG4X at (904) 243-0882.

WEST PASCO COUNTY

The Suncoast Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring W5YI-VEC exam sessions on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The exam location is the Pasco County Building, 530 Sunset Road, New Port Richey (just east of U.S. 19 — one mile south of the Pithlachascotee River Bridge).

Pre-registration is strongly advised, and the deadline is the Saturday preceding the exam date, thereafter, walk-ins will be accpeted on a materials availability basis.

Talk-in on 145.350 (Tx-600).

Remember to bring with you, two forms of identification, originals and copies of your license and CSCE's if any and the $5.25 fee required for the technical through extra exams.

For registration and/or information call: Marv Borngraber, WC2G, (813) 938-7810.

HERNANDO COUNTY EXAMS

The Hernando Volunteer Examining Council (HERVEC) with Clover Leaf ARC and Spring Hill ARC co-sponsors are conducting monthly exams novice through extra, each third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Springfield High School in Spring Hill. The Clover Leaf Visitor's Center in Brooksville is the alternate exam site.

Walk-ins are welcome.

For information contact Paul Sauer, K4ZC at (904) 683-3167.

LAKE COUNTY — CENTRAL FLORIDA

W5YI-VEC exams will be held on the following Saturdays in 1991: April 20th, May 18th, July 20th, September 21st, October 19th and November 16th. Test time is 9:30 a.m.

The location is the Lake Amateur Radio Association Clubhouse, just west of Tavares, Florida. Go two miles west of Tavares on U.S. Highway 441 to CR 473. North one mile on CR 473 to the Haines Creek Baptist Church. The clubhouse and 180-foot tower are behind the church.

Walk-ins permitted.

Bring a copy of ham license, copies of any certificates of successful completion of exam and positive identification. Cost is $5.25 for 1991.

Talk-in on 147.255, K4FC, repeater.

For information contact Paul, K3NON at (904) 343-8729 or Millie, KQ4R at (904) 343-0075.

MARION COUNTY FLORIDA

Tests are given the second Monday of every second month (February, April, June, August, October and December) at 7:00 p.m. (sharp) . . . novice through extra. Walk-ins are welcome.

The location is the Green Clover Hall in the Marion County Government Complex off Route 40 on Ft. King and 25th Avenue in Ocala, Florida.

Bring $4.95 and a copy of license.

For more information call R. Brenner, KA4RWB at (904) 237-5783 or write to 5690 S.W. 36th Avenue, Ocala, Florida 32674 and send a SASE for a reply.

OCALA/CENTRAL FLORIDA

W5YI exams are held each month (except November and December) on the last Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 2802 N.E. 7th Street, Ocala, Florida.

All exams, novice through extra, are given on a walk-in basis. Fee is $4.75. Novices are free. Talk-in is available on 145.130 repeater.

For information contact Jim, KA2MBE at (904) 236-0744; or Joe, KA4WJB at (904) 351-1985.

PALM BEACH

Palm Beach Amateur Radio Council and Palm Beach Community College Amateur Radio Club are giving amateur radio license tests the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Palm Beach Community College, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Florida, Criminal Justice Room 101, for $4.95.

Walk-ins permitted as long as we have test materials available.

Next tests are October 13th and 14th at hamfest at South Florida Fair Grounds on State Road 80.

For information call Graf Buckenmaier at (407) 582-7617.

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

Test date and time is January 12th, April 13th, July 13th and October 12th, 1991 at 10:00 CST. Walk-in time is 9:30 a.m.

The site is the Civil Defense Building, Main Conference Room, 644 Mulberry Avenue, Panama City, Florida.

No cash. Make checks payable to ARRL/VEC. No charge for novice. All other classes will be $5.25.

For information write Charles Hickman, 2402 West 21st Street, Panama City, Florida 32405 or phone (904) 785-0449.

BOCA RATON

The Siemens Amateur Radio Club sponsors ARRL/VEC coordinated exams the third Friday every month at 17:30 hours, except December which will be the second Friday. The tests will be given at the Spanish River High School, 5100 Jog Road, Room 8207, Boca Raton.

Pre-registration is recommended, but walk-ins are accepted if testing materials are available. Novice exams are free . . . all others are $4.96.

Bring a photo identification, your original license and a copy and the original and a copy of any CSCE's. All forms are provided.

Contact Ron Diego at (407) 994-7168 during business hours or (407) 487-1726 evenings and weekends for more information or to pre-register.

PENSACOLA

CAVEC exams will be held on the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. The location is the West Florida Hospital in the cafeteria.

For further information contact Bill, WA4YRN at (904) 476-8537 at his home or (904) 474-8328 at his workplace.

PORT SAINT LUCIE AREA

Fort Pierce, Florida • Saint Lucie County

The Fort Pierce ARC is sponsoring ARRL/VEC's each month on the fourth Saturday, at the Saint Lucie Emergency Operations Center. Go west of I-95. Pass Highway 713 to Rock Road. It is on the right-hand side.

Register at 9:00 a.m. and the test will be given at 9:30 a.m.

Details from Fred Newmann W2EUX 407 340-1069

DUNEDIN — TAMPA BAY AREA

W5YI-VEC coordinated amateur radio exams are conducted by the Dunedin ARC/VE testing team on the first Monday of every month. If the first Monday is a holiday, then the tests are held on the second Monday.

Testing begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Foreign Language Building, Number 99, Dunedin High School, 1615 Pinehurst Road, Dunedin.

Remember to bring with you, two forms of identification, originals and copies of your license and CSCE's if any and the $4.95 fee required for the tech through extra exams. Talk-in on 145.110 or 145.310 (Tx-600).

For registration and/or information call WC2G at (813) 938-7810 or W8RH at (813) 535-2034. Mailing address is: P.O. Box 1851, Dunedin, Florida 34697.

TAMPA EVENING TESTING

W5YI-VEC exams will be held the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (except November and December). Sessions will be replaced by one date in early December due to holidays. (Phone for exact date during November.)

Testing location is the second floor of the American Red Cross Building, 217 North Howard Avenue, Tampa.

Novice exams are free. All others $4.75 cash. Bring with you the original and a photocopy of your current license and original and photocopies of CSCE's, if any.

To resolve questions or obtain holiday season dates contact Scott, KA4FRO at (813) 685-2514.

QCWA CITRUS CHAPTER

The QCWA Citrus Chapter meets on the third Saturday of each month at Stacey's Buffet in Altamonte Springs at noon.

For more information contact Don Fisher, W4PLA, 143 Hilltop Place, Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701; phone (407) 331-0456.

Royal Palm Chapter QCWA, No. 152.
Meeting Place: Elks Club, Airport Road, Naples.
Meeting Time: 11:30 a.m., second Tuesday of each month.
President: George G. Slade, W1GOG, 4617 Lakewood Boulevard, Naples, FL 33962; (813) 793-3533.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

The Southeast Chapter meets on the third Saturday of each month at noon at Denny's Restaurant, 7411 N.W. 36th Street, Miami, Florida 33166.

For more information contact Art Rauch, W4VZ, 10950 S.W. 105th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33176-3435; (305) 274-9709.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CHAPTER

The Southeast Florida Chapter meets at the Denny's Restaurant, 7411 S.W. 36th Street, Miami, Florida the third Saturday, every month at noon.

For more information contact: Herb Bernard, W4JXA, 1641 S.W. 92nd Place, Miami, Florida 33155 or phone him at (305) 264-8807. You can also contact: Art Rauch, W4VZ, 10959 S.W. 105th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33176 or phone him at (305) 274-9709.

SUNCOAST CHAPTER

The Suncoast Chapter meets the first Thursday of the month, October through May at the House of Chong on the west side of Route 41 — just south of the junction of Route 72 — at 11:30 a.m.

For inforamtion contact: Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF, at (813) 485-7928.

TREASURE COAST CHAPTER

The Treausre Coast Chapter meets the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Vero Beach Inn, Route A1A.

For more information contact Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. W.R. Staples, W4SME, P.O. Box 782202, Sebastian, Florida 32978; (407) 664-6750.

SUWANNEE CHAPTER NO. 62
DIRECTORY LISTING FOR 'FLORIDA SKIP'

The Suwannee Chapter No. 62 meets the fourth Thursday of the months of February, April, June, August and October, and the second Thursday in December at Don's Smorgasbord on 36th Avenue, one block south of Silver Springs Boulevard, in Ocala, Florida. The time is 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact: Ray Chartier, W1RFE at (904) 694-5439.

RESULTS
FLORIDA QSO PTY 1990

		Points
CW WA5DTK	Brevard	2,496
CW KB4QWG Z	PCARS Melbourne	1,886
Phone		**Points**
WA4IIN	Palm Beach	15,660
WD4IUD	Palm Beach	9,202
WA4HXZ	Palm Beach	7,965
W4KOG	Palm Beach	2,632
K2GNZ	Palm Beach	1,998
N4SDU	Palm Beach	2,700
KA4AUZ	Palm Beach	684
N4OGS	Palm Beach	656
WB2OUK	Palm Beach	506
KC4LCF-K4GTE	Palm Beach	1,235
AB4TG	Palm Beach	501
KN4Y	Leon County	22,311
K4GF	Ocala	3,680
N4ID	Richardson, Texas	639
K8BXT	Warren, Texas	4,712
AA0BA	Nebraska	14

ORLANDO AREA EXAMS

FCC exams for all classes will be given the second Saturday of June, September and December at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Maitland. The exact dates are: June 8th, September 14th and December 14th.

Remember to bring with you two forms of identification, FCC license and copy of it and copies of any CSCE's when you come.

CAVEC exams will cost $5.00 and ARRL exams will be $5.25, depending upon which VEC coordinates the session.

For information call: Roy, N4ADI, (407) 644-5905.

Dear Andy:

Well, this is a complaint Andy. In the April issue of the Skip, page two is the W4MAQ Cy Harris Memorial Free Flea. As per the Skip, it was to be held April 7th, 0700 sharp, rain or shine. The call-in frequency 145.27, etc., etc.

No such thing Andy. My son and I spent quite some time sorting things for the flea market, due to our move to Puerto Rico next month. We took off for Ft. Lauderdale at 0830, and when within range, called for information on the 145.27 machine, only to be told:

1. that the free flea was changed;
2. that the 145.27 machine was the Racal-Milgo machine and that no one checked with the Racal-Milgo group to get a go-ahead to use that machine; and
3. that the information was called into Skip, and that the change was put out over the Ft. Lauderdale machines.

Well fine for the two-meter boys in Ft. Lauderdale, but here in Homestead? I'm not a two-meter (CB) type, seldom use two meters, but keep an Icom 2AT just to have VHF capabilities.

Well it ended up at a two and a half hour trip (roundtrip) with tolls on the Turnpike, the loss of a days leave and now unable to get to the free flea next Saturday due to duty . . . I will not have the opportunity to move any of the excess gear I have prior to my move.

I don't know where to put blame on this, but if the information was "called in" to Florida Skip, then I would not take information over the phone, perhaps fax, with the correct information, such as: Free Flea on Sunday, April 7th . . . etc., verification of fact is the key.

In closing this letter Andy, all I can say/quote is: "Yes, the W4MAQ Cy Harris Memorial "Free Flea" has been "memorial." Thanks for taking the time to read this.

—73,
Tom Chirhart, NP4V
12323 S.W. 265th Terrace
Homestead, FL 33032

(Editor's Note: Tom, the information printed in the April Skip was all we knew about it. No changes were received. — Andy)

NORTHWEST FLORIDA NEWS
By R. "Bob" H. Watson, W4DTV

It is with regret that I have been sick and unable to keep this news report going.

I wish to thank the many many friends who sent cards, called long distance and visited me during my 12-day stay in the hospital. I am still in care of the lung doctor and am having trouble with my right lung.

Needless to say, many things have happened in this area with a number of "silent keys," and others being sick.

The bulletins I receive from the various clubs in Florida is greatly appreciated and discussed on the various nets. I get a lot of calls for information regarding FCC license exams and use the publications to spread the word.

Due to doctors orders I have turned over the MARS Bulletin to my good friend Lori Mathew, N4ZCF and her husband Matt, KC4RKJ. They agreed to pick up where I left off. In addition I may have to drop some of the other projects I am involved in.

Please don't forget to write to the Florida and the Washington Senators and Representatives about the bills being proposed for the State of Florida and the Federal Government regarding radio amateurs future operations.

The Pensacola hamfest was better this year and is improving each year.

The Fort Walton Beach Hamfest will be on the same dates as the Orlando Hamfest, so I will miss the Orlando one this year.

The Twin Cities Amateur Radio Club has picked up new members and continues to grow.

The Playground Amateur Radio Club has also had some new amateurs join and they continue to grow.

The North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club has acquired a new two-meter repeater and replaced the old one, with some improvements in coverage.

The OARC, NOFAR, PCARC and others have published some excellent articles on the pending bills for amateurs in Florida and Washington.

This may be my last attempt to write this column, all depending on the doctors orders.

So with lots of 73 and 88 to all my many friends, I close for now.

HOW TO CANCEL THE LICENSE OF A SILENT KEY

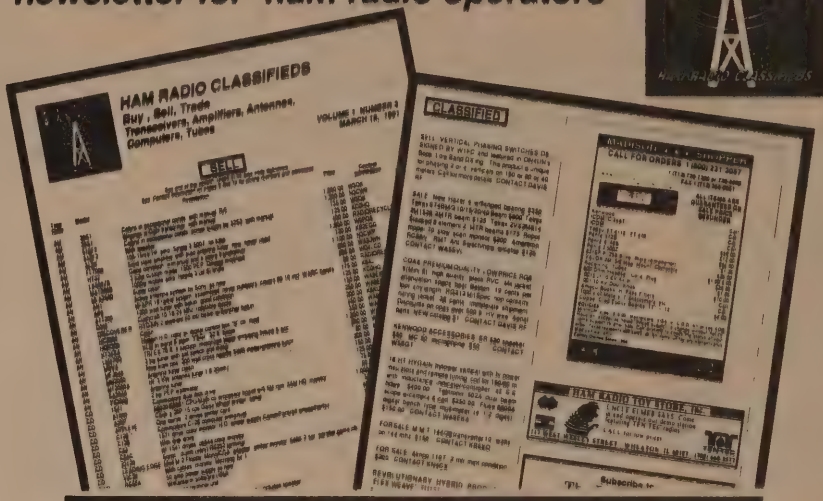
The FCC no longer deletes the call-signs of "silent keys" from its records unless their cancellation is specifically requested. Since the term of an amateur license is now 10 years, plus a two-year grace period, the family of the deceased amateur could continue to receive correspondence, based upon FCC records, for that period.

In order to avoid this unwanted correspondence, families of deceased amateurs may send the license, or a letter if the license cannot be found, to FCC, Consumer Affairs Office, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325.

— Reprinted from the ARRL Letter

HAM RADIO CLASSIFIEDS

the bi-weekly classified newsletter for ham radio operators



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BP-7	13.2v	500mah	$23.00
BP-8	8.4v	800mah	$21.00
BP-22	8.4v	270mah	$22.00
BP-23	8.4v	600mah	$22.00
BP-24	10.8v	600mah	$28.00

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PB24 Tabs	9.6v	600mah	$15.00
PB-25/26	8.4v	500mah	$18.00

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FNB-11	12v	600mah	$30.00
FNB-12	12v	500mah	$30.00

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Azden 300 Tabs	600mah	$15.00
Bearcat	600mah	$20.00
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ASK FOR SPECIAL SALES PRICES

MARYLAND MAN RECEIVES FIRST CODE-FREE LICENSE

Robert N. Williams, N3IFY, of Annapolis, MD, has received the first code-free Amateur Radio license. His new Technician Class license was issued by the Federal Communications Commission in mid-March. The historic new code-free license class became effective Feb. 14. Williams took his examination before volunteer examiners of the Laurel (MD) Radio Club.

In the first two weeks of the new license class, the FCC received 313 applications for code-free licenses, according to the Commission.

A NO-CODE HAM LICENSE

Prospective amateur radio operators or hams, now can get satisfying taste of the hobby without passing a Morse Code Te . . . learning the code has long been an obstacle for many people.

To earn the new Technician Class License, launched Februa 14th by the Federal Communications Commission, applican take a 55-question, multiple-choice exam covering basic ele tronics and on-the-air operating procedures. The license allov you to chat with other hams on radio frequencies above 30 MH To earn privileges below 30 MHz, where most long-distan contacts are made, you'll need to demonstrate proficiency Morse Code.

The American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Stree Newington, CT 06111, has study guides: "Tune in the World wi Ham Radio ($14.00), "The ARRL Technician License Manua ($6.00) and "The FCC Rule Book" ($9.00). Add $4.00 for U. postage; $5 for UPS.

The ARRL also has information on tests around the countr given by ham volunteers for a modest $5.25.

Beginners pay from $200 to $400 for walkie-talkies that let the communicate above 30 MHz. For a free catalog, you can c specialty shops like Electronic Equipment Bank in Vienn Virginia, (800) 368-3270 or Amateur Electronics Supply Milwaukee, (800) 558-0411.

Please recycle this newspaper.

RATE CARD INFORMATION

HAMBAR service of electronic equipment only is available to all subscribers, amateurs and non-amateurs at the rate of 10 cents per word, which includes address, call sign, etc. Minimum charge for any HAMBAR is $3.00. All commercial and non-subscribers rate is 15 cents per word. Minimum charge of $5.00 for each HAMBAR. No reruns. Each HAMBAR must be resubmitted each month. No ad will be published unless accompanied by full remittance! We require all HAMBAR ads contain the full mailing address, call sign, zip and area-phone number, if any. Make it easy for person wanting to buy your equipment. No HAM-. BARS via telephone!

COMMERCIAL DISPLAY

Full-page $125.00. Half-page (1/2) $80.00. One-quarter (1/4) page $55.00. One-third (1/3) page $70.00. One-eighth (1/8) page $40.00. Camera ready. Lay-out, make-up and typeset fee is extra according to size of ad and typeset required for same.

Deadline for all HAMBARS and ads, eighth (8th) of each month in P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, Florida 33266. Normal mailing date 25th of each month. Thank you for your cooperation.

—Editor.

For Sale: KENWOOD TS520S $300. with 2 manuals. Hy- Gain beam 204BA $170. with new insulators. D-104 mike $40. Henry Haaygn WD4PTO, 6330 NW 37 Terr. Miami, FL 33166 305 871-7232.

BUY & SELL Commercial Video audio and microwave equipment. Bob Brown W2EDN, 140 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 884-8686 day 883-8669 nite.

SELL: ICOM 720A general coverage transceiver w/mike $475. Hustler 5BTV vert. $45.Dual turntable $40. . 60 Watt S/S Guitar amp w/2 12" Jensons $100. MFJ 941B Verstuner II $45. Steve Taber W4ITD, 2665 N.W. 26th Ave., Lighthouse Point, FL 33064 305 781-5387.

A BOY CAN HARDLY WAIT TO GROW UP, BUT THE YEARS DO RUSH BY AND HE GETS MARRIED--AND THEN IT'S HIS WIFE WHO CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR HIM TO GROW UP.. . . Tks W4ZGG. .

SELL: TS830S. VFO-240, MC-35S, all items in good condition and operating to specifications. $695. Azden PC-6000 45W 2 mtr transceiver new and in warranty $295. Bill W5OG, 6857 Broadmoor, North Lauderdale, FL 33068 305 970-5074.

WANTED: KNEWOOD TW-4100A dual bander or other with cross band repeater. SELL Motorola Maxar 80 UHF $100. Motorola cell-phone battery $20. Kenpro spkr-mic for HYs $20. Kevin Poslusny KJ4PR, 11014 SW 154 Ter. Miami, FL 33157 305 235-6727.

FOR SALE: 300 watt AM/SSB linear 1 - 5000 and 6000 HAL telety e - package deal $250. Spiro WD4-ISF, P.O. Box 680135, Miami, FL 33168 305 454-8921.

WANTED: Heavy duty crank-up tilt-over tower. Prefer 60 ft. or higher. Must be able to support large 7 element beam. 11 square Ft. Wind load.. Wife is non-ham. Please WRITE. Jeff Haught WD4RAY, 8909 85 St. N., Seminole, FL 34647-3512 813 393-4757.

SELL: ARD 230CA Linear Amp. 3-plus KW output (three 3CX800A's) automatic control, instant HF band-switching, separate control console w/15' cable to Amp. Pick up only $3800. SIGNAL ONE 1030, all filters, latest mods, service manual, original carton, $3,300. Collins HF-380 all filters, blower, remote control interface, latests mods, service manual, original carton $2,500. Hy-Gain 105 BAS 10M 5 el. beam (Pick up) $80. UPS extra. Mike Raskin K4KUZ, 561 West Tropical Way, Planation, FL 33317 305 583-4026.

FEED YOUR FAITH AND YOUR DOUBTS WILL STARVE TO HEATH. . . KI4GH.

FOR SALE: 52 ft Hy-Gain crank-up tower, self sup orting galvanized, excellent condx. Order replacement base from Hy-Gain. Must pick up. Stuart, FL $750. W. Anderson WB4ZKY, 2064 Windward Way, Jupiter, FL 33477 407 743-1376.

FOR SALE: R. F. Communications, Inc. RF-102 HF Amp. 2-30 MHz uses one 3-1000Z tube. One good tube in Amp. plus one N.I.B. tube $1200. Also have a 1 KW output amp. for 2 meters $800. Last is heathkit SB-200 am for $300. Billy Elsberry KA4DNR, P. O. Box 98, Ruskin, FL 33570 813 645-9569.

NEED TUBES?? Have huge inventory, including 3-500Z 572B's etc. Call or FAX for price quotes. Also buy tubes. D & C Electronics, Dick Gross, N1BGL, 3089 Deltona Blvd., Springs Hill, FL 34606 904 688-2374 FAX 904 683-9595.

BUY & SELL COMMERCIAL VIDEO AUDIO & MICRO-WAVE EQUIPMENT. Call W2EDN, Bob Brown, 140, Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 884-8686 Day or 883-8669 nite.

SALE: 58 Ft. Tilt-over Rohn 25 Tower with 2 sets of guys. 4 transmission lines, 10 ft. XH aluminum mast. $300. Kenwood PS-30 power sup ly, new $100. PC-1A phone patch new $90. Mosley CL36 Tri-band 6 element beam, ex $200. Finco 6 & 2 meter 10 el beam, $100. Collins ART-13 WWII bomber transmitter new, never fired u $100. WANTED KWM 2A round in mint condx. Charles Shetler KJ4AM, 5702 SW 1st St. Plantation, FL 3317 305 581-0231.

SELL: ICOM SM-8 mic, mint $70. or trade for Kenwood MC-60A Mic. ICOM speaker IC-3 also mint $40. Ray Kemper K4ICB, 2630 Bismark Way, Sarasota, FL 34231 813 922-0138.

FOR SALE: HEATH decade condenser IN-21 $15. DX-60 $50. Counter IM-4100 $50. Hammerlund police radio 35 watts 117 AC or 6/12 VDC $50. Waters wide range atten. 391-2 $15. DSI freq. counter mod. 3500 $50. Co-AX relays 4 Collind no. 410-0086-009 1 price No. 6 350, all 5 $90. Antique General Radio Wave meters mod. 758-A $18.50Mod. 724-A, 5 coils, precision cond. $75. Unitek Welding Head, with precision power supply, connecting leads and foot control, brand new and never used $900. Ken Jezorek W4LC,Juno Beach, FL 33408 Call after 4 PM 407 626-1126.

FOR SALE: Commodore 128, 1541 disk drive and monitor $250. IC-04AT $150. Epson printer for Commodore $100. All good condition. Israel Cabrera KC4OBZ, 11757 SW 18 St., No. 3, Miami, FL 33175 305 221-6635.

IF YOU COUNT EVERY STEP YOU WILL MAKE A LONG JOURNEY OF IT...

WANTED: YAESU 6M/726 and 440/726 for FT-726R and Yaesu FL-7000 amplifier. Must be mint. Jim Lucas WB4-LPU 406 Ellen Way, Brandon, FL 33510 813 689-7245.

FOR SALE: 40 ft. crank-up, tilt-down aluminum tower with TA-33 Mosley Yagi, CD-45 rotor, coax cable and control unit. Cost $2000. 2½ years ago. Asking $1000. Inquire other equipment. Kressel, 2308 SW 83 Terr., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33324 305 473-5716.

LAWS SHOULD BE LIKE CLOTHES -- MADE TO FIT THE PEOPLE THEY SERVE... tks KI4GH.

MUST SELL: EASY WAY tower 48 ft. crank-down,tilt-over $225. Antenna tuner Kenwood AT-130 $175. Odds and ends. Moving. Tom Anderson W4LGO, 9514 W. Hamilton Ave., Tampa, FL 33615 813 886-5825.

SELL: G E 7 inch precision d.c. meter 0-5/5/50/5000 volts $25. RCA 6 inch meter transistor gain tester $25. New B&K bench DVM $75. (You wont drop this.) $75. My granddaughters Bauch & Lomb 2-ocular disecting miscrocope $75. (cost 5 time that) Josef Darmento W4SXK, 11170 S. Tropical Tr., Merritt Island, FL 32952 407 773-0796.

ANTENNA TUNER, home brew, 80-40-20=15=10 in black cabinet, 200 w. max with built-in SWR meter. Well designed and built by commercial $50. YEASU FRG-7000 communications receiver 200 kHz to 30. MHz, very clean excellent back-up or SWL receiver $210. Costs about twice that. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr. Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

Sell: Heights of 56 feet tower $350. Tristao Tower mast w/rotating and tilt over base $450. Fold over kit Rohn $100. Contact K4DZP, 7840 SW 96 St., Miami, FL 33156 305 274-4523.

FOR SALE: COMPUTER - Heathkit HB - 68K memory w/3 floppy drives, printer buffer, ser/par. software - RTTY morse, CP/M, assembler basic $448. Don Fontaine N4ET, 252 Cocoa Lane, Venice, FL 34293 813 497-4014.

COLLECTORS: Heath DX-60 W/VFO, National NC-303 Hammarlund HQ-145 W/matching speaker. All with manuals. All in good condtion. Write (include phone number) A. L. Kasevich W1CDC, 4031 NW 8th Terr., Oakland Park, FL 33309 (No phone no. given in ad.)

SELL: WESTON voltage/ampere meter. Hand-Held: 150-300-600 v.a.c. & 300-150-60-30-15-6 amps AC. with leads Weston adapter all in black carrying case 3¼W X 2" D X 6" H. Excellent condition $45,' plus UPS. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

PEOPLE WHO SNORE ALWAYS FALL ASLEEP FIRST.Hum

DIVORCE SALE: Must sell! Azden PCS-6000H 50W 2M xcvr in box $350. Cushcraft R-5 halfwave vertical used 2 months $200. Ringo Ranger 2 - 2M vertical used about 2 weeks $35. Both in boxes. ICOM SM-6 desk mic, never used $35. Radio Shack PRO-57 50-512 scanner $50. Radio Shack 100W PA amp with 2 speaker columns $300. 1/2 wave 2M mag mount mobile ant. $10. Vern Erickson KM4VC, P. O. Box 2309 Arcadia, FL 33821 813 494-3318

WANTED: SWAN 350 or SWAN 500 manuals, would be helpful. Cliff Thweatt KD4KA, 501 Sandlewood Lane, Plantation, FL 33317 305 792-3810.

THE ART OF BEING WISE IS THE ART OF KNOWING WHAT TO OVERLOOK. W4ZGG.

SELL: IC-740 with HM-7 mike amp sply linear legal limit PR 3-500Z's mod. LK-500-ZB spinder mobile ant. system orig. carton $100. Clipperton-L linear with 10 mtrs $400. Ed Chinnock W2FZY, 5641 Bayview Dr., Ft. Lauderdsle, FL 33308 305 772-3939.

WANTED: Low band VHF base station antennas for Red Cross installations in Central Florida. Contact Larry W. Shumway N5OHY, P O Box 291546, Port Orange, FL 32119 904 761-6554 after 7 PM.

FOR SALE: Resistors, large selection 1/8 watt through 2 watts. SASE for list of values. Minimun 100 ea. walue $1. cut from new spools. Stuart T. Carter II W4NHC, P. O. Box 033177, Indialantic, FL 32903 407 727-3015.

WANTED: Viking I or Viking II and NC303 in good or excellent condition. Your help in reconstructing my original station greatly appreciated. WANT to operate A.M. once more! Top dollar paid for well preserved gear. Will pick up in Florida. Call after 7 PM 813 962-2460. Richard Cohen K4UTI, 11802 Willow Point Way, Tampa, FL 33624.

SALE: Commodore 128 computer, PS, cables, two operating disks and manual, $125. Plus shipping. Jerry Tetrault K1ACX, 8265 Apple Orchard Rd., Spring Hill, FL 34606 904 686-4323.

SALE: USED Rohn 25 tower sections, 9 straight, 1 top $25. each. WA4YLD, Tom Mannix, 4534 Van Buren, Hollywood, FL 33021. 305 961-4842. Call days or before 9 PM.

ONE THING THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT TODAYS' YOUNGER GENERATION IS THEY ARE BASICALLY A GROUP THAT IS ALIKE IN MANY DISRESPECTS....

FOR SALE: Yeasu 747GX with (CAT) HM-1 "up-down' mike, with manual, excellent (looks new condition.) $625. Matching Astron RS-20A power supply $90. . Have 3 - 20 inch color TV by RCA RXL100, less remote controls need work $25. each. Excellent RG59U coax 7 cents per foot. Coax connectors all types half price. Tennenlec 16 chnl scanner, 115 v.a.c., no book, needs work $15. Astatic DN-HZ mike with stand/cable/connector $22.00 Heath Manuals. see other Hambar. Realistic 4" mobile or fixed station speaker with long cable & plug. $10. Misco 3" mobile spker $8. Heath Transistor checker IT-18 in heavy duty plastic carry case $18. Heath 100 kc crystal calibrator with xtal and Durcell battery $10. All above plus UPS. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

HEATH MANUALS: Have 54 Heath original manuals and info sheets/diagrams available. $3 to 15 dollars each. Andy Clark W4IYT 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874. What do you need ? SASE for list.

SELLING IC-2AT with spare battery, speaker-mike, car lighter adapter and rubber duck antenna $150. Frank Nankin K4BNZ, 16558 NE 26 Ave; North Miami Beach, FL 3316(305 682-8456 days or 944-1908 nights.

TYPETRONICS now buys and sells tubes, M.S. connectors and teletype repair parts. Pleas send SASE to P.O. Box 8873, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310 305 583-1340 for tube and/or teleprinter parts lists. A ham's widow wants to sell a tri-band beam for $25. Some parts may be missing phone 305 771-1294.

THE MODERN WIFE IS ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT HER HUSDAND'S FAVORITE DISHES ARE--AND THE REST-- AURANTS THAT SERVE THEM... . . W4ZGG.

WANTED: Wilson 2 mtr hand held. Model 1402 SM, SM2 speaker mike, BC-1 nicad battery charger, and/or WE224 with mounting bracket, mike, mint condition basic requirement. Call 305 226-1901. Orlando Diaz WD4MFS 9835 SW 34th Terr., Miami, FL 33165.

SELL: KENWOOD TS-940S-AT, loaded all filters, TSCO, memory bank, service manual $1600. SM-220 with panadpter $400. M-60 mic $70. M-85 mic $80. SP940 spkr $60. IF-232C interface $50. QSYer for Kenwood $75.00 HAL SPT-1 Spectra-tune $75. Blinky RTTY Tuner $50.00 DRSI external HF Modem $50.ICOM SM-10 desk mic $75. Collins SM-280 desk mic $40. Shure 444D mic $40. AEA PK-88 $90. Tokyo Hy-Power labs HL-82V 2M amp (10/85 out) $100. Astrow RS-35M 35A power sply with meters $125. Nye-Viking MB-V-A antenna tuner w/Balun and meters $500. Shipping extra. Mike Raskin K4KUZ, 561 West Tropical Way, Plantation, FL 33317 305 583-4026

GOD MADE TIME, BUT MAN MADE HASTE....

WANTED: Manual or copy for SWAN-750CW, PSU-3 power supply. Will gladly pay all expenses. Ken Morgan AC4J, 10193 SW 202 Terr., Miami, FL 33189 305 233-011

YAGI BUILDERS: Tubing, tube traps, Universal plate for boom to mast or elements, SS hardware and small cabinet's. SASE for brochure. 1-800-833-3794. Call 9 to 3 PM. Brown Engineerings, Inc., 5501 SW 25th Ct., Hollywood, FL 33023.

SELL: ICOM &20A Trans, power supply. Work on reg man. AM Filters and general coverage. $650. Heath 2KW tuner 2040 $150. Trade or SELL. Norman Polonsky W4TTT 164 Sandpiper Ave. Royal Palm Beach FL 33411 (no phone No. given with ad.)

SALE: Commodore disk drive 1541 $65. Tubes 6146 $8. Hy-Gain 40 meter doublets, new $45. Recvr Boat mtg. Bkt RCA, $45. Arthur schiff, 3200 Kirk St., Miami, FL 33133 305 856-0045.

A DIAMOND IS A CHUNK OF COAL THAT MADE GOOD UNDER PRESSURE. . . Tks W4ZGG.

WANTED: Inexpensive CB Base; antique shortwave - will pick up. TRADE/SELL: certified 10 m. SSB mobile - 25W 28.3 to 28.8 mHz. $90. D-104 $30. John Mahagan WB4JHS 2836 Camomile Dr., Orlando, FL 32821 407 856-6264.

FOR SALE: Motorize your tower! Reversable 117 V AC Dayton hoist (Grainger no 4Z327, currently $290.) mounted on steel plate drilled for Rohn or similiar tower. 2700 pounds single line rating. Local pick up desirable $150. Marshall Goldblatt, W4EMB, 11801 SW 70 Ave., Miami, FL 33156 305 666-6997.

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-820 w/m-50 mic, $500. Palomar transceiver pre-amp, $75. MFJ 941-C Versatuner II, $60.00 Autek Research QF-1ASSB/CW AM filter, $50. Micronta FS meter/SWR tester model 21-525B, $7. Palomar tuner-tuner PT340, $55. Hy-Gain 14AVQ vertical $30. Hybrid Quad model HQ-1 $50. B&W FL 10 1500 filter $20. Turne model 254, $15. Micronta mod. 22-204A V-O-M $20. 1987 ARRL Handbook $12. Vomax SSB-3C speech Processor $50.

All items to be picked up. Estate K4IJC 40 Frangipani, Largo, Fl 34640. 813 585-5356.

MANUAL: AZDEN PCS-300 2 meter handheld transceiver instruction manuals. $5. each post paid (Have 2) andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

Hams' 'Kuwait Connection' Revealed

Amateurs everywhere now can know the full story of a Kuwaiti amateur who was on the air during the occupation of his country, sending AMTOR messages to the outside world (*The ARRL Letter*, March 8, 1991).

On March 21 Abdul Jabbar Marafi, 9K2DZ, gave the ARRL his consent to reveal his identity and to publish his story; a major article about the 'Kuwait Connection' will appear in May *QST*. What follows is a greatly abbreviated version of that article.

9K2DZ, usually signing another of his call signs — A92ET — or no call sign at all, almost daily reported from Kuwait.

At first the traffic was health and welfare messages, and Marafi turned immediately to his Amateur Radio friends, on the APLINK network.

"AMTOR sounds like a cricket," Frank Moore, WA1URA, told the U.S. Department of State when he began faxing them copies of Marafi's missives from Kuwait City. "The transmitters pulsate on and off and are much more difficult to locate with a direction finder. It also means that one receives almost perfect copy," Moore said.

Marafi's APLINK colleagues were quick to recognize the need to protect 9K2DZ by keeping the traffic quiet (at one time Iraqi troops were living in the house next to Marafi's, Clark Constant, W9CD, said).

The traffic was not a total secret; as hams happened upon the APLINK frequencies bits and pieces of messages with Arabic names would appear on their screens.

Meanwhile, aboard the USS John F. Kennedy in the Red Sea, Navy First Class Petty Officer Scott Ward, N5DST, had long been using AMTOR, and APLINK, to handle messages for the more than 5,000 Navy personnel aboard.

Following the invasion of Kuwait, Ward's official Navy channels were given over entirely to traffic more important than health and welfare messages, leaving Amateur Radio — and APLINK — as his only medium for messages home.

It wasn't long before N5DST/MM ran across the Kuwait traffic. Ward was immediately invited to join the effort, in part since his location seemed perfect for a short hop to Kuwait.

"I always would forward the Kuwait messages to WA1URA, their primary destination," Ward said, "knowing they would get to State if necessary. Then they would go up the chain of command aboard ship, through officers in touch with Central Command in Riyadh."

Bob Foster, WB7QWG/9, had been handling Kennedy messages for Ward long before the ship's deployment to Operation Desert Shield.

"At first we discouraged Abdul from transmitting," Foster says. "Although we all were very curious, we also feared for his safety."

For N5DST/MM, the spectre of shipboard radio silence always loomed, as when YI1BGD, at the Radio Club of Baghdad, briefly accessed Ward's BBS and also attempted to access those of APLINK operators TG9VT and OD5NG.

By now Abdul Jabbar Marafi was beginning to feel the strain, as were those in the network.

"Abdul, W9CD, and I became concerned," Troost says, "that the Iraqis might be listening in and that we were giving away information they could use to repress Kuwaiti nationals, not only in Kuwait, but also in the U.S.A., so most of that [health and welfare traffic] was stopped."

Other Kuwaitis around the world were picking up the slack, as they became active on AMTOR and joined the system to handle "mail" between each other.

At least two 9K2 stations were active from Switzerland, and additional links appeared in Muscat and the United Arab Emirates, to where many Kuwaitis had fled.

It also was feared that Marafi had been compromised by his "discovery" by YI1BGD in Baghdad.

But "there is no reason to believe," Moore decided, "that the YI station compromised our friend. We have excluded him from our computers. We also ask 'special questions' to our friend so he can give us a sign if he were in trouble and that has not happened."

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NEW Radio Buffs SPECIALS: Ten-Tec America's BEST: OMNI V - $1810. Paragon $1810. Delta II and Argonaut - Ask for special quote JRC JST-135 $1459. JST-135HP $2489. NRD-525 receiver - $999. NRD-535 Receiver $1549. Azden 6000H 2Mtr 45 watts $319. Call for Special quotes on ICOM, Kenwood and Yaesu. Let us be your accessory and equipment supplier. Radio Buffs, N4EDQ Amateur Radio Sales, 4400 Highway 19A, Suite 10, Mt. Dora, FL 32757 call 1 800 828-6433.

COMMERICAL antenna: Broad band gain commercial 4--bay antenna by DB PRODUCTS, of Dallas, Tx. . Mod. DB-224, 9dB 155 -172 MHz, circlar pattern, new condition, never put up. Sells for over $286. FOB Tx, asking $150. Can supply company dope sheet for SASE. No ship, pick up only.

FOR SALE: Heath RS-1 Resistance substitution box $8. Boman Mark II, solid state dc p/s 12V DC 2.5 A constant 5A surge $15.00 Citizens Band SWR&power meter $10.. All above plus UPS. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

Virgil Yarbrough, K4IEK is pleased to receive his 50-Year ARRL membership plaque from Kay Anderson, W8DUV, Asst. ARRL Dir. S.E. Div. at the Joint Bradenton ARC and Bradenton Repeater Group. Virgil actually has 53 years continous membership and is very active on Packet. (photo by Frank W4RH.)

"WALKAMERICA '91" COMES TO SOUTH FLORIDA

The 1991 March of Dimes "WalkAmerica" — the nation's largest, oldest and most successful walkathon fund-raiser — took place throughout South Florida on Saturday, April 6th.

Six simultaneous walkathons will step off promptly at 8:30 a.m. in Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, West Palm Beach/Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Stuart and Homestead. This will mark the 21st consecutive year for "WalkAmerica" in South Florida. Nationwide, "WalkAmerica" will take place in 1,400 communities and involve more than 700,000 walkers.

Most participants walk as members of teams representing companies, clubs, organizations and municipalities. Last year 537 separate companies and organizations fielded "WalkAmerica" teams. Many thousands of people simply walk as individuals.

Mark A. Weber, chairman of the South Florida Chapter of the March of Dimes, said, "Every year, a quarter of a million babies are born too small, too soon. These babies are 40 times more likely to die than normal weight babies. 'WalkAmerica' gives everyone in South Florida the opportunity to help the March of Dimes ensure that babies are not born premature, with birth defects or low birthweight."

For the 15th year Dade amateurs turned out in mass (70 in all) to assist Dade March of Dimes officials in providing vital back up communications to all "check points," the Dade-Metro Police Department, City of Miami Police Department and 911 Rescue, plus other key locations.

Program Director Robert L. Bergmann said in a taped interview by W4IYT: "We really could not have done it without the assistance of the ham operators. You radio amateurs (looking directly into the lense of the television camera) are really great and we thank you for it."

The event coordinator for his 15th year was Joel Kandel, KI4T. The Dade Communications Van was set up at 4:00 a.m., by new Dade Rades Officer Carl, KA4HLO. Four two-meter nets plus a packet circuit to West Palm Beach officials was in operation by 7:00 a.m.

The 10-hour event went very smoothly according to WB4BVO, WB4BBO, WA2ONT, KP4EDL and WA4JKZ who held down the NCS posts in the OEM Communications Van.

The Dade County ARRL Emergency Coordinator Andy Clark, W4IYT, said, "It appears the March of Dimes Amateurs are becoming commercial operators in handling communications for another perfect score in efficiency. Congratulations to all hands."

(Editor's Note: A 29-minute television VHS video was shot, edited and produced by W4IYT and Miami Springs TV Productions, Inc. Tape will be on loan to any club or ARES group, free of charge, if postage is paid both ways ($2.50). Send request to: Miami Springs TV Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266. Use letterhead stationary, please. — Andy)

As part of the Orlando Hamcation, a joint Army-Air Force MARS meeting was held at the Ramada Inn. Such a joint meeting reflected the strong cooperation between the two service affiliated groups. Problems and accomplishments of both groups were covered as well as news and notes of interest to each group. Such cooperation has served both groups well during the past few months and should continue.

Dedication to the work of Florida Army MARS was certainly shown one weekend by Kent Hutchinson, AAT4OT, one of the newest members at the time. The barbecue was all warmed up ready for those luscious steaks while he monitored the evening net.

A listing of traffic for Tallahassee came to his attention. He could handle that. He checked in.

The sending Air Force MARS Station requested an alternate frequency. Okay. He could handle that.

The bands were not at their best, but he soon got the news that it was not just one message for Tallahassee. Seventy-seven messages for Tallahassee! With band conditions, there was no way those messages could be sent on the air. Off went the barbecue, back to the freezer went the steaks and down to Port St. Joe he drove. It took two days and the help of several local operators, but the messages were successfully passed.

This column generally has a statement from a member of the staff of Florida Army MARS. With all the Army MARS related news this month, there was insufficient room to include in full the material received. This feature will appear again next month.

"The gold of friendship is a magic thing. The more we spend it on each other, the richer we become."

(Editor's Note: Skip welcomes reports Air Force and Navy MARS groups! — Andy)

RUMOR CONTROL DEPARTMENT

Unfounded rumors about FCC plans to "ban scanners" are cluttering electronic mail and packet bulletin boards. The rumors *are not true*. Apparently what set them off was someone's hearing about, and misinterpreting, the FCC Notice of Inquiry in Docket 91-36 (which considers the possibility of RELIEVING RESTRICTIONS on the possession and use of Amateur Radio equipment in local jurisdictions having anti-scanner laws, through federal preemption).

Commenting on the rumors, ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, said: "It's a shame that the FCC, in trying to do the amateur community a favor, gets subjected to a lot of abuse just because someone can't be bothered to check his facts before getting on the keyboard. This kind of rumormongering is just plain irresponsible." The ARRL Letter April 4, 1991

LOOK AGAIN

Look at the top line of your mailing label. This is your ONLY REMINDER WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION RUNS OUT! You can renew ANYTIME before experation date and our computer will automatically "ADD ON" from that date. It is just like putting money in the bank. We take renewals for one, two or three years, if you so desire.

So it's up to you to watch that top line. If you miss, the computer will automatically skip over your address when printing mailing labels.

Thanks for your cooperation in this important matter.

— 73, Editor